Gov't troops capture top Abu Sayyaf leader

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2001 ★ 80 PAGES 7 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 281 P15

FBI getting 'clear' picture of attacks

THE MASSIVE Federal Bureau of Investigation probe into Tuesday's horrific terrorist attacks is "developing a kind of clarity," US Attorney General John Ashcroft said in Washington Saturday.

"We are beginning to understand the ways in which this terrible crime was committed," he said.

FBI/ A20

Afghanistan gets ready for 'jihad'

Battle-weary people streaming out of Kabul

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U.S. TARGET

Pakistan to Taliban: Turn over Bin Laden

WASHINGTON—US President George W. Bush stepped up his beating of war drums over the weekend despite a last-ditch effort by Pakistan to persuade the Taliban rulers in Afghanistan to turn over Osama bin Laden and avert US military action.

"Senior Pakistani officials are going to Kabul tomorrow to try to knock some sense into the Taliban," a source close to the Pakistani government told the Agence France Presse in Islamabad on Sunday.

"We will make every effort to avoid any major catastrophe," the source added.

The Taliban has repeatedly refused to turn over Bin Laden, a Saudi dissident suspected of orchestrating the devastating terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington last week.

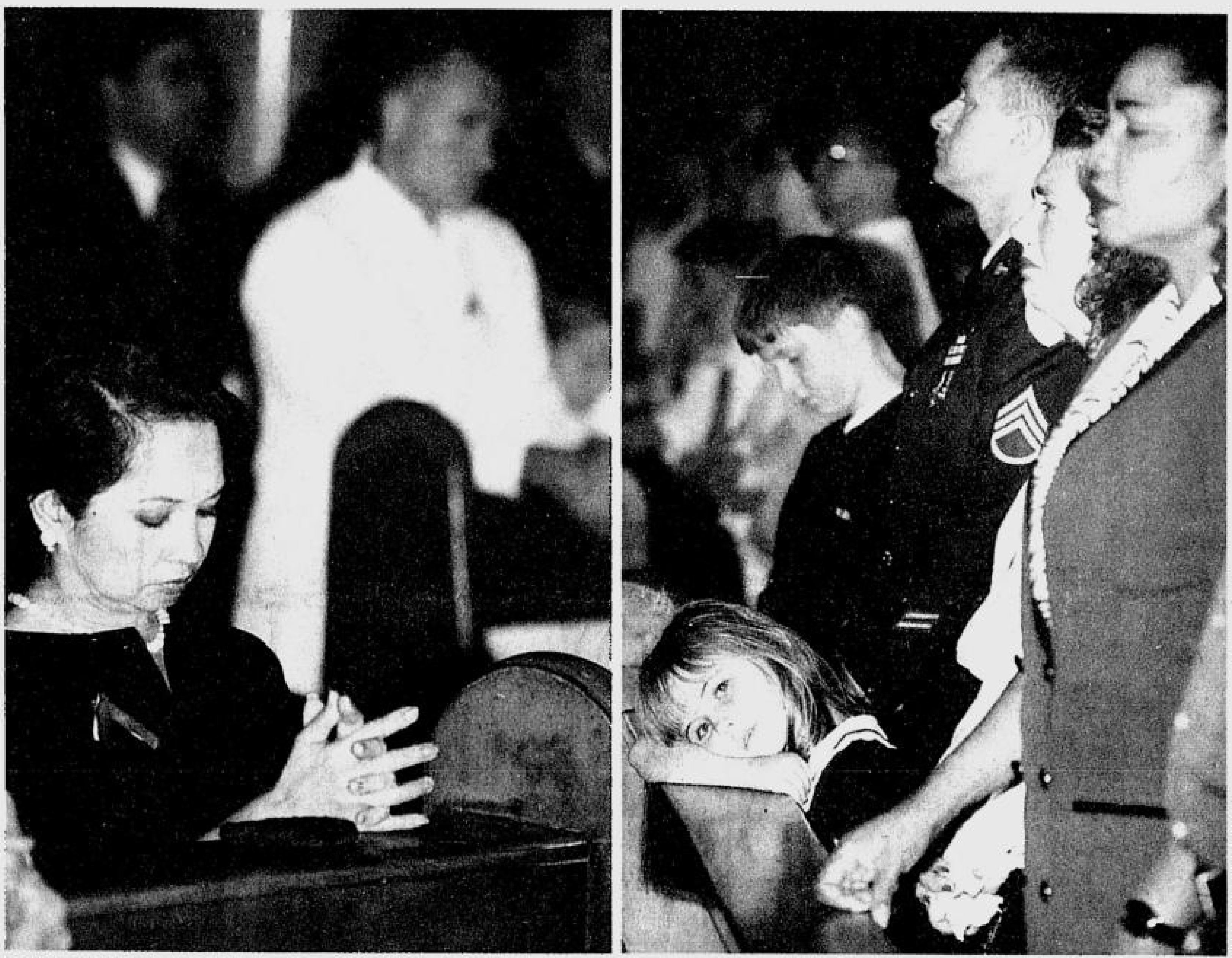
Despite the Taliban's denials regarding Bin Laden's involvement in the attacks, the United States continued to gain the support of many countries, including Pakistan, for a global anti-terrorism coalition.

Military and diplomatic officials said Saturday that Islamabad had agreed to a list of US demands for a possible attack on Afghanistan, including a multinational force to be based in Pakistan.

The same officials said the United States was seeking a "comprehensive strike" to wipe out the Taliban and Bin Laden's network of terrorist bases in Afghanistan.

Bush met with top advisers in Camp David on Saturday in a virtual council of war even as he advised Americans to go about their business this week and maybe take

PAKISTAN/ A6



PHOTOS BY ERIK ARAZAS

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo leads Philippine officials in praying for Filipino victims of Tuesday's terror attacks in New York. Several American officials and their families also attended the Mass held at the Manila Cathedral in observance of the National Day of Prayer and Solidarity against Terrorism.

Sin: Let vengeance give way to healing

By Christian V. Esguerra, Martin P. Marfil and Tonette Orejas

MANILA Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin yesterday appealed for sobriety and called on the faithful not to respond to the terrorist attacks on the United States with brute force.

"Let vengeance give way to healing, anger give way to reconciliation, and death give way to life," Sin yesterday said in his homily at the Manila Cathedral in observance of the National Day of Prayer and Solidarity against Terrorism.

President Macapagal-Arroyo and her Cabinet, former President Corazon Aquino, and members of the diplomatic corps, led by American Embassy chargé d'affaires Michael Malinowski, attended the Mass.

While saying that no amount of explanation or cause could justify the "ghastly" attacks, the cardinal emphasized that the tragic events should allow people to seek world peace, not vengeance.

"Let us pray that this inhuman act will awaken in the hearts of the

SIN/ A5

KABUL, Afghanistan—In a move that sent ordinary Afghans racing to the borders, the supreme leader of the Taliban, Mullah Mohammad Omar, yesterday summoned senior Islamic scholars to this capital to discuss *jihad*, or holy war, against the United States.

Some 700 to 1,000 elders and ulama (religious scholars) from each of Afghanistan's 32 provinces are expected to attend the meeting, which is due to take place tomorrow.

Even as many battle-weary Afghans streamed out of Kabul, others seemed resigned to adding American fury to their long list of woes.

"There is no pleasure in life anyway, so I don't care if the bombs come and I have to die along with my children," said Leilama, a 38-year-old mother of six here.

"But the United States should know that the Afghan people are not their enemies," she added.

Omar sounded the call to arms as—for the first time since last Tuesday's awful attacks on New York and Washington—the most wanted man on earth, Osama bin Laden, issued a personal denial of any involvement in the atrocities. Previous denials have been issued by unidentified aides or by officials of the Taliban.

"The US is pointing the finger at me but I categorically state that I have not done this," Bin Laden said in a statement faxed to the Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) news agency.

"Those who have done it, they have done it in their personal interest," the Saudi-born terrorist said in the statement, which the AIP said had been sent to them by Bin Laden's aide Abdul Samad.

In a statement printed in the Shariat daily newspaper, which is controlled by the Taliban militia, Omar said the ulama would be called on to issue a *fatwa*, or learned opinion, possibly calling for holy

AFGHANISTAN/ A21

Attacks were acts of war on people, not on US power symbols

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

PEOPLE all over the world mourned in memorial services over the weekend the victims of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. The outpouring of grief came from people from all stations in life—monarchs, presidents, prime ministers, officials and, most of all, ordinary people.

The globe-circling services were not only an expression of support for the United States, the first testing ground and victim of what American President George W. Bush described as the "first war of the 21st century."

More than that, the moment of mourning, called by the Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi as "the silence of civilization" against the "deafening noise of hatred," reflected the anxieties and the vulnerability of defenseless people to terrorist attacks.

This message of vulnerability was resonant as people stood in silence in services at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, St. Paul's Cathedral in London, Edsa Shrine in the Philippines, the European Union headquarters in Brussels, EU capitals and in Washington, D.C., and New York. Ceremonies were also held in Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Russia and South Korea.

Moderate Islamic countries also condemned the attacks. In a sermon, Shjeikh Mohammed Sayyyed al-Tantawi of al Azhar, a Sunni religious leader, said "attacking innocent people is not courageous. It is stupid and will be punished on the Day of Judgment."

The solidarity across the world of people mourning over the tragedy transcends the wide support by America's allies for Washington's plan to hunt down the terrorists and to wage war on coun-

ATTACKS/ A20

RP support for US war risky–Gringo

But defense secretary counters: We can't be fence-sitters

AN OPPOSITION senator yesterday criticized President Macapagal-Arroyo's "all-out support" for the broad anti-terrorist coalition the United States is cobbling together, saying she might put the Philippines at risk.

Sen. Gregorio Honasan, once classified by the US state department as a "terrorist" for staging coup attempts against the Aquino administration, said any military participation "might endanger the lives of our people and affect our ability to survive any global conflict."

But Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes dismissed the criticism. "We can't be fence-sitters. We ourselves are being plagued by terrorism."

On the same day, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rejected a call made by Afghanistan's ruling Taliban for all Muslims to wage a *jihad* (struggle) against the United States, in the face of imminent retaliation for the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"We are not responding to that call," said MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu, adding that Taliban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar's talk of jihad was "without basis."

"In fact, we even condemn the act of terrorism. We in the MILF support the campaign against these terrorists," Kabalu said.

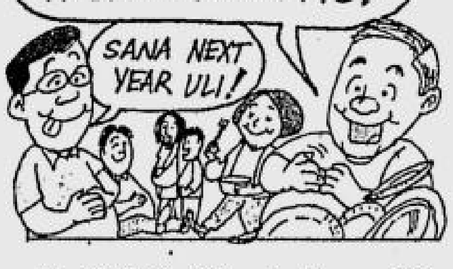
A leftist mass-based group, however, scored the President for offering the United States use of the former American bases in Subic and Clark. Pamalakaya, a militant fisher folk group, said Ms Macapagal's offer was a "superb display of puppetry."

Speaking on television, Honasan said that under the Constitution, Congress and not the President had the sole power to declare war.

"We have done all we can. We are proactively preparing for the evacuation of Filipino overseas workers. Our financial managers are preparing proactively for the backlash," he said.

"Beyond that, we should rethink carefully our next move, because this might endanger the lives of our people and af-

RP/ A21


ANG DAMI PALANG VEGETARIAN DITO!
SANA NEXT YEAR ULI!

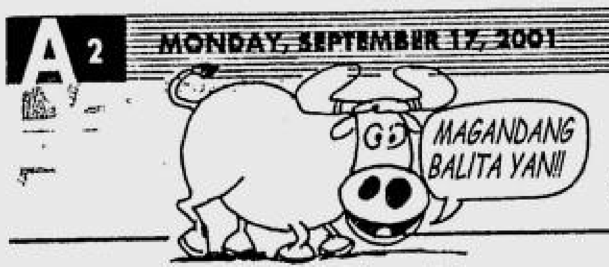
5,000 finish off largest tossed salad in country

By Jovelyn Reyes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—About 5,000 people—way beyond the organizers' expectations, yesterday lined up and partook of the largest tossed salad in the country.

Tourists and residents started queuing at the Baguio Convention Center as early as 9 a.m. to sample 916.8 kilograms of assorted vegetables that were tossed into the biggest and heaviest salad in the country.

5,000/ A20


MAGANDANG BALITA YAN!!

Second FRONT PAGE

Top Abu Sayyaf leader captured

By Alcuin Papa

GOVERNMENT troops captured Saturday a ranking leader of the Abu Sayyaf bandit group who had a P5 million prize on his head.

A military source said the bandit leader was arrested in Basilan by government forces hunting for the Abu Sayyaf and the 18 hostages, including an American missionary couple, they have been holding for three months.

Military officials declined to identify the bandit leader prior to his presentation to media today by Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff Gen. Diomedio Villanueva.

"He is in the core group of the Abu Sayyaf and carries a P5 million reward," was all a military source would say.

Eighteen ranking leaders of the bandit group each carry P5-million prizes on their heads, while lower ranking officers and members have P1 million each. The reward money comes from a P100-million bounty for the capture of the group's leaders and followers posted by President Macapagal-Arroyo last May.

Saturday's arrest was the second of a ranking Abu Sayyaf leader after intelligence officer Nadzmie Sabdullah was caught in General Santos City in July.

The latest arrest was reportedly made with information provided by a tipster who is after the rewards posted for the capture of the Abu Sayyaf leaders.

No details of the arrest were released by the military as of yesterday.

WHICH one is he? File photo of AFP spokesperson Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan presenting to media the mug shots of wanted Abu Sayyaf leaders last May.
ERNIE SARMIENTO

At the same time, two suspected Abu Sayyaf members were arrested by elements of the Army's 18th Infantry Battalion in Lamitan, Basilan, also on Saturday.

Itang Awal Isnijal, 47, and Daud Indaling Korong, 21, were captured at around 9:15 a.m. at a checkpoint. Both are residents of Barangay Semut, Tuburan, Basilan.

Isnijal admitted during interrogation that he was in charge of the communication system of the Abu Sayyaf and that he had participated in some of the group's kidnapping activities.

Saturday's arrests came one day after Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu assumed leadership of the AFP's Southern Command, the main military unit going after the Abu Sayyaf.

Cimatu, former AFP deputy chief of staff, replaced Lt. Gen. Gregorio Camiling.

Military officials had promised President Macapagal they would neutralize the Abu Sayyaf rebel-cum-bandit group by November.

Since April 2000, when the group first kidnapped more than 20 people from a Malaysian resort, they have managed to elude capture despite a manhunt that has included as many as 5,000 government troops at the highest count.

Judge's ruling on safety net riles solon

By R. Nazareno

BUKIDNON Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri yesterday chided a lower court judge for barring the implementation of the Safeguards Measures Act (SMA) designed to protect Filipino farmers from the ill effects of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trades.

In a statement, Zubiri rapped Valenzuela City Regional Trial Court Judge Floro Alejo for suspending implementation of the law, thereby bringing "dire consequences to Filipino farmers who are laboring to produce crops under the most trying conditions."

"With the way the wheels of justice move in this country, the injunction could be in force for years, more than enough time for Philippine agriculture to wilt under the onslaught of dumped foreign crops," Zubiri said.

In a ruling on Sept. 4, Alejo barred the secretaries of agriculture, finance, and trade and industry, the customs and tariff commissioners, and even Congress, from acting on cases filed under the SMA, or Republic Act 8800, until the law's constitutionality shall have been resolved by the courts.

"The court ruling effectively dismantles an important trade safety net and opens the floodgates to dumped goods from abroad," Zubiri, chair of the House committee on legislative franchises, said.

Zubiri noted that "products from rice to radios, noodles to needles have been entering the country legally and illegally in numbers threatening to smother to death local manufacturing firms."

"I think the ruling was a slap in the face of Congress because if you read it, it implies that the law, which was four years in the making and subjected to a fine-tooth comb by both chambers, suffers from constitutional infirmities that Congress overlooked," he said.

Zubiri also pointed out that the principal author of the SMA was President Macapagal-Arroyo when she was a member of the Senate in 1995.

"(Ms Macapagal) should be alarmed that a GATT safety net she promised to the people has been compromised," Zubiri said.

Zubiri said Alejo's injunction could also affect the implementation of two other safety nets—the Countervailing Duties Act and the Anti-Dumping Act that were signed into law in 1999.

Together with the SMA, the three laws form a package of safety nets promised by the government to local industries, workers and farmers when the Philippines ratified the GATT and joined the World Trade Organization.

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GMA ties dirty money to terrorism

NAGA CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo on Saturday linked money laundering to terrorism and vowed to "take any possible executive action" immediately against it.

"Last week, it (money laundering) had an economic and political issue. From now on, it is an international political issue. It has moved from being a question of financial corruption and has become a question of abetting terrorism," Ms Macapagal told the media upon her arrival from a state visit to Japan.

"Money laundering is now linked, in the investment community's mind, to terrorism" and gives the perception that the Philippines coddles terrorists, the President said.

"Let us not make the world believe that the Philippines is a haven for terrorist money and that terrorist cells are not far behind them," the President said.

She warned that money laundering, if not checked immediately, might even give the impression that the Philippines is among the countries not fighting terrorism.

She said the government must formulate a credible anti-money laundering bill by Sept. 30. *Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Congress to OK bill by Oct. 15

CONGRESS is likely to pass an anti-money laundering bill by Oct. 15, way past the Sept. 30 deadline set by an international anti-money laundering task force, Senate sources said yesterday.

The Senate and House committees responsible for coming up with an anti-money laundering bill have been meeting since last week to "harmonize" their respective versions, said Sen. Ramon Magsaysay, chair of the Senate committee on banks.

"The Senate will have a version (of the bill) not very far from the House version," Magsaysay said in a phone interview yesterday. "We are working closely (together)."

He said some issues are bound to be contentious, however.

The two panels, which also include representatives from the central bank, are to meet for the second time today.

A source said the two panels have limited from 31 to 15 the criminal activities to be covered by the law.

Also, the two panels are considering placing the minimum amount of bank deposits to be covered at P500,000.

But the Senate source said Sen. Joker Arroyo, vice chair of the banking committee, favors a minimum of P1 million.

Magsaysay said one of the contentious issues involves whether the implementing body should be allowed to inquire into an account suspected to contain laundered money with or without a court order.

The senator said the Senate version proposes that the anti-money laundering unit be the one to make the determination while the House version wanted the courts to make the decision.

Christine Avendaño

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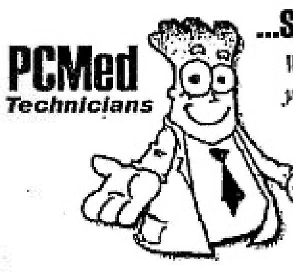

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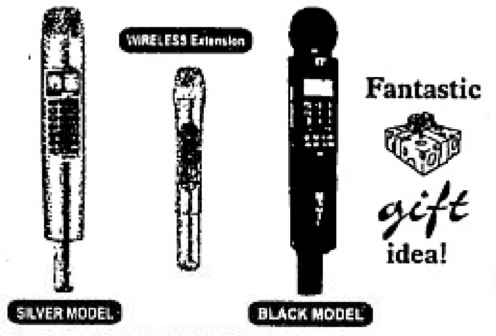

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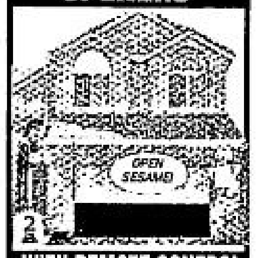

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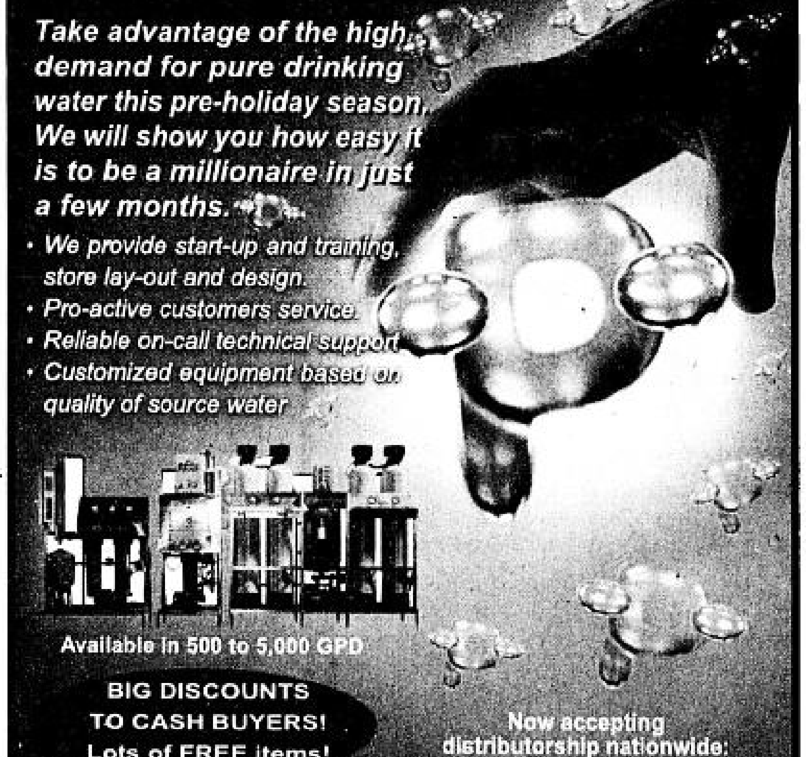

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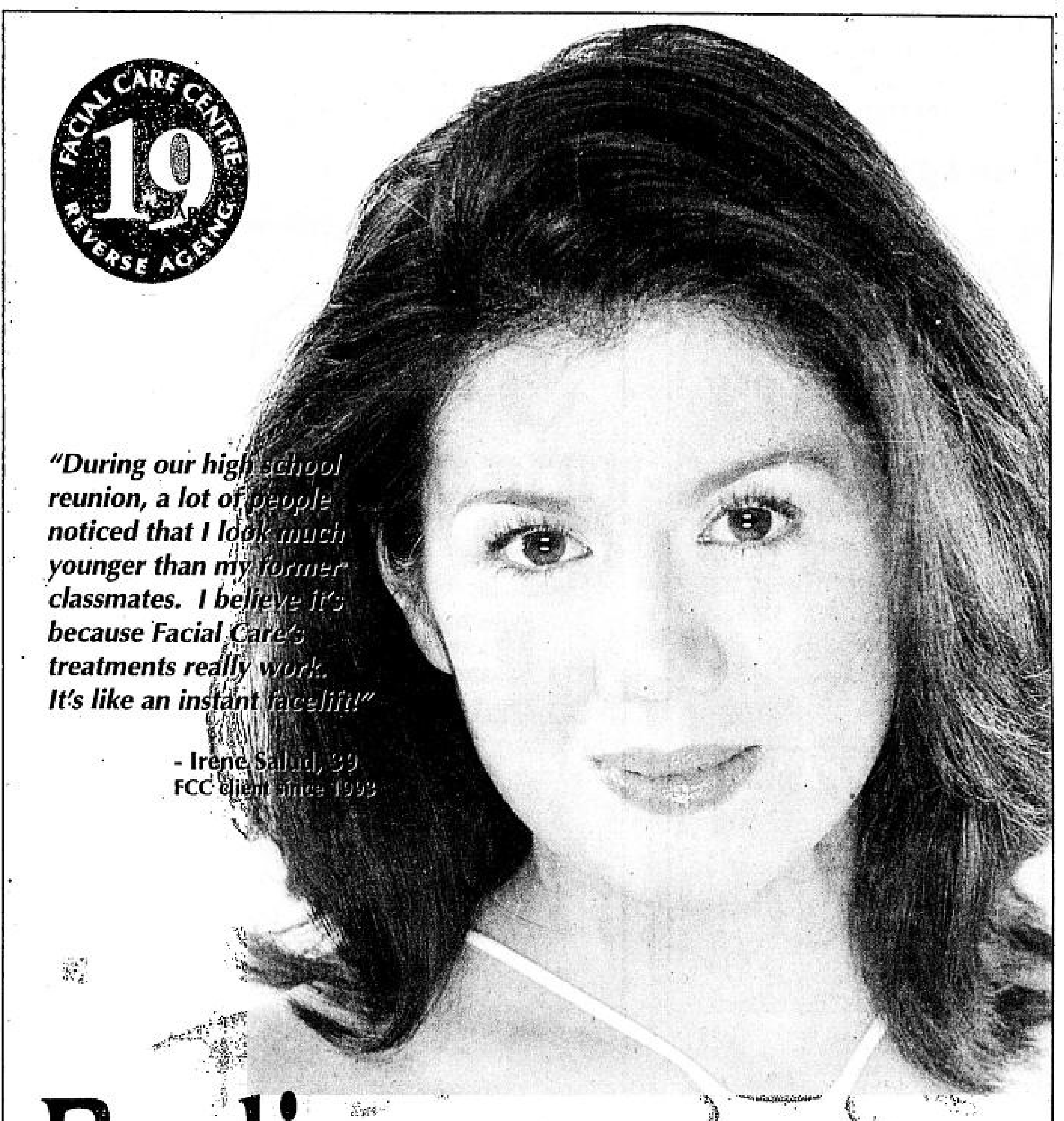

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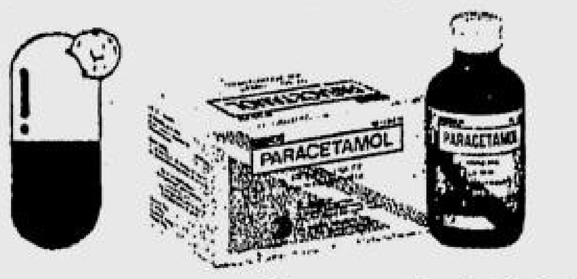

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Gonzales, former Senate president, dies at 78

FORMER Senate President Neptali Gonzales died of heart failure at the Makati Medical Center yesterday. He was 78.

Gonzales, the law professor-turned-lawmaker who drafted the Freedom Constitution following the Edsa Revolution of 1986, was taken ill a week ago, said his son, House Majority Leader Rep. Neptali Gonzales II.

GONZALES

Gonzales, president of the Manila Bulletin, suffered a heart attack while in hospital last Thursday.

"His condition improved for two days but this morning it deteriorated and he was given a pacemaker," the younger Gonzales said yesterday.

He died at 4:03 p.m. yesterday.

Gonzales, who is from Mandaluyong, was a law professor and law school dean for many years before becoming vice governor of Rizal, serving from 1967 to 1969. He was elected congressman of the first district of Rizal in 1969.

He was a pillar of the opposition in the defunct Interim Batasang Pambansa during the Marcos era.

As the first justice secretary, from 1986 to 1987, of the Aquino administration, Gonzales was the principal architect of the legal and constitutional framework of the first post-Edsa government.

He is survived by his wife, Candida C. Medina, and four children—Myrna, Sorohayda, Rhodora and Neptali II.

His body now lies in state at the family residence at 539 San Joaquin St., Plainview, Mandaluyong City.

Interment will be announced later.

Unaccounted Comelec funds total P1.8B–COA

By D. S. Cueto

THE COMMISSION on Elections had P1.845 billion in unliquidated funds as of December 2000, making it one of the government agencies with the highest total of unaccounted funds.

A Commission on Audit report said Comelec officials and employees have perennially failed to liquidate huge cash advances for travel and election-related expenses, in violation of Presidential Decree 1445 and a 1997 COA circular.

Ironically, more than half of the unliquidated funds—P968.676 million—went to cash advances for officials of agencies like the Department of Education, Culture and Sports, the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Philippine National Police and others that assist the Comelec during elections.

The outstanding balance of P876.74 million were cash advances to Comelec officials and employees for operating expenses.

Some of the officials, however, have since left the Comelec and government service, leaving the COA with no assurance they would still liquidate their accounts.

Among the top Comelec officials who still had unliquidated cash advances, former commissioner Luzviminda Tancangco had the highest total at P3.97 million for the years 1996 and 2000.

Next on the list was former commissioner Abdulgani Marohombsar who had P2.416 million in unliquidated funds for the year 1999 alone, followed by former commissioner Julio Desamito with P1.25 million in unsettled cash advances since 1997.

Former commissioner Teresita Dy-Liacco Flores had unliquidated advances for the years 1998 and 2000.

Former Comelec chair Harriet Demetriou still has to account for P100,000 in cash advances.

Three incumbent commissioners also have unliquidated accounts, the highest of which was the P200,000 cash advance given to Commissioner Ralph Lantion last year. Commissioner Rufino Javier has P110,000 in unsettled accounts and Commissioner Mehol K. Sadain still has P80,000 in unliquidated funds.

Among all these officials alone, the combined total of unliquidated cash advances came to P8.58 million.

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Fr. Olaguer: Activist priest, Marian mover

JESUIT priest Fr. Antonio "Toti" Olaguer, who co-founded the Light a Fire Movement that defied the Marcos dictatorship, died yesterday morning of an internal hemorrhage and other complications. He was 74.

OLAGUER

From his activism in the 70s and 80s, Olaguer turned to a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the last decade of his life.

He was former national director of the Marian Movement for Priests and Laity and was instrumental in spreading the messages of the Virgin Mary as revealed to Fr. Stephano Gobbi.

The messages were contained in the "Blue Book" in which Mary is said to be warning people to prepare for the Second Coming.

Olaguer's sister, Linda O. Montayre of the Philippine Consultative Assembly, said "Fr. Toti talked about the Great Chastisement and the upheavals that were to come and the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

These past years, Montayre said, her brother had become more insistent that people turn to Jesus and Mary as signs of the "chastisement" were becoming more evident.

Olaguer had written his exhortations in the book "Waiting for the Lord." A second volume is waiting to be published.

"It's like he just waited for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the US to happen," Montayre said. "He hadn't been very well." Olaguer was stricken ill the day after the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

Olaguer had headed the Jesuit-run Institute of Social Order during the martial law years and was popular with activists and militant church workers.

But he was better known as an anti-Marcos activist along with his brother, businessman Eduardo Olaguer, who were behind the Light a Fire Movement that planted bombs around Metro Manila to embarrass the Marcos regime.

Fr. Olaguer was also close to the late Benigno Aquino and his family and was the senator's spiritual adviser when he was jailed on orders of Marcos.

It was said that Fr. Toti was the only one who could visit then President Corazon Aquino in Malacañang shod only in slippers.

Olaguer, who was ordained in Maryland, USA, on June 20, 1960, circulated among the high and mighty as well as the powerless and the poor during his activist years.

At one dinner, he was said to have told former First Lady Imelda Marcos: "I have heard that your business is mining. 'This is mine, that is mine, everything is mine'."

Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. was a classmate at the Ateneo.

Despite his militancy, Olaguer was never detained, however. It was his brother, Eduardo, who suffered incarceration for many years under Marcos.

The Olaguers hail from Guinobatan, Albay. He was one of 12 brothers and sisters. The late poet Valdermar Olaguer was his eldest brother.

Fr. Toti began feeling ill on Sept. 10 after coming from Mindanao. His friends in the Marian Movement thought he had the flu.

On Sept. 11, after celebrating Mass at the Ateneo at the Rockwell Center, he collapsed. He was taken to the Cardinal Santos Memorial Hospital where he later died.

He is survived by nine brothers and sisters, three of whom belong to the Religious of the Good Shepherd.

Olaguer's remains lie at the Loyola House of Studies at the Ateneo campus on Katipunan Avenue, Quezon City. Interment has been set for Wednesday, Sept. 19.

Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

RP joins WHO mental health drive

By N. Bordadora

THE PHILIPPINES has signed together with 36 countries and territories in the western Pacific a World Health Organization agreement aimed at easing the burden of mental illness in the region.

WHO Western Pacific Regional Committee member-countries, including the Philippines, adopted a five-point strategy for mental health at the 52nd session of the committee held recently in Brunei.

Key elements of the strategy are advocacy and information dissemination, enhanced delivery of mental health care, values formation regarding mental health care, legislation to help governments act on mental health issues, and continued research.

"The mental health strategy marks the beginning of a region-wide commitment to treat mental disorders. We believe mental health should be promoted as much as physical health," said Dr. Shigeru Omi, WHO regional director for the western Pacific.

"We've seen the success of collaboration, as partners in health in the October 2000 declaration of the region as polio-free. We're also taking steps to combat AIDS and tuberculosis. It's time to work together to improve mental health," Omi said.

The objective of the regional strategy for mental health is twofold—to decrease the burden of mental illness and disability and to improve mental health.

Sin: Let vengeance give way to healing

(From page A1)

world's peoples a firm resolve to reject the ways of violence, to combat everything that sows hatred and division within the human family," Sin said.

Through Proclamation No. 100, Malacañang designated yesterday as a day of mourning in sympathy with the American people.

Malacañang urged the people to gather in their places of worship to pray for the victims and help the world end the "scourge of terrorism."

"Our prayers go not only for the American victims but especially also for our Filipino victims because 115 Filipinos working in the World Trade Center are still missing, two are confirmed dead," Ms Macapagal said after the Mass at the Manila Cathedral.

"I am asking everybody to say a prayer especially for them. I will be looking for the families of these victims so that I can give the personal condolences of the Filipino people and ask them what assistance they would need from government," the President said.

She identified the two, who have been confirmed dead, as Ronald Gamboa and Ruben Ornedo.

The Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday clarified that the Filipina, who was found alive after earlier being reported missing following the World Trade Center attack, was Cynthia Betia, not Cynthia Betita.

The Manila-based DFA task force, quoting a message from the Philippine consulate general in New York, clarified that Betia was found safe in her home in New Jersey while Betita was among those reported missing.

The INQUIRER reported on Sunday that Betita, not Betia, was found alive in her home in New Jersey. The newspaper based its report on information gathered Saturday afternoon from the task force set up by the DFA to help people locate missing relatives in New York and Washington D.C.

The INQUIRER also erroneously reported on Saturday that Belinda Domingo was among those who died at the World Trade Center and that rescuers had recovered her body from the collapsed towers.

It turned out that her body had not been found. She is still missing.

As of yesterday, the consulate reported that it was still determining the whereabouts and condition of 14 Filipinos, including Betita, who were reported missing after the World Trade Center attack.

New names have been added to the list of missing persons. They include Lyn Corea Gray, Bernardo Gallardo, Cesar Alviar, Rufino C. Santos, David M. Sullins and Manny Lopez.

Sullins, who works for the Cabrini hospital paramedic unit, rushed to the WTC to help the injured. He was last seen at the first floor of the building. His wife reported that he is missing.

Light candles

In Angeles City, the Filipino-American community lighted white candles at the Carmenville Subdivision chapel yesterday to mourn the deaths of many Americans.

Mike Bennet, a Filipino-American in his 40s, described the event as a "spontaneous reaction" to the carnage that terrorists inflicted on the American nation.

"We simply want to condole and this is our way of expressing our grief to fellow Americans," Bennet said.

Angeles City has about 20,000 Filipino-Americans, mostly abandoned and retired US military servicemen, who chose to stay behind when the Clark Air Base was ordered closed by the Philippine Senate in 1991.

On Tuesday, the city's Filipino-American community is scheduled to gather for a Mass near the Clark Air Base cemetery where about 10,000 US servicemen of the US 13th Air Force and their dependents are buried.

At the three-hectare cemetery where wooden crosses painted in white lent a sharp contrast to the grass and flowers that symbolized life, the American and Philippine flags have been fluttering at half-staff since Wednesday.

Retired soldiers, many in their 60s, gathered in exclusive clubs and diners on Saturday night, gulping beer and loudly talking about the tragedy as if it happened close to home.

Flowers from Muslims

Like many groups all over the world, Muslim groups in the country are condoling with the Americans.

Muslim civil society organizations and interfaith groups will hold a Prayer for World Peace rally in front of the Golden Mosque in Quiapo, Manila on Friday. A delegation will lay flowers at the US Embassy on Roxas Boulevard.

Like Sin, Maradeka, an umbrella group of Muslim organizations in the country, appealed for sobriety.

"We appeal for sobriety over the bloody incident and (for the public and authorities) not to succumb to human anger and indiscriminate retaliation," said Maradeka spokesperson Datu Ansari Alonto.

Alonto asked local authorities not to identify members of their faith as the usual suspects in last week's attacks in the United States.

But while they expressed their condolences to the Americans, Alonto and his group advised them to learn from the vital lessons of the attacks.

"What the tragedy teaches the American government is that the strong and the powerful should not oppress the weak," Alonto said, referring to sufferings the US allegedly inflicted on Palestinians and Iraqis.

Answer to violence

In his homily, Sin said the public should be neither passive nor "counter-violent" in responding to the horrific attacks. "There is a better answer to violence and hatred."

A passive attitude, he said, would only prolong and support violence, as people would refuse to take action.

But an attitude of counter-violence, he said, would neither help. It would never uproot the source of all violence since it would counter "hatred with hatred, terror with terror, thereby giving rise to a spiral of violence," he said.

While he was supporting a "humane resolve" on the conflict, Sin said the public should seek hope beyond the tragedy and work for genuine cooperation among nations on the principles of solidarity, justice and peace.

If there's anything positive about the terrorist attacks, it has brought people together and made them realize that they are a family, according to the cardinal. "The world now feels connected more than ever."

Sin commended Americans for overcoming their initial outrage and shock immediately after the attacks by showing "tremendous love and solidarity."

Thousands of Americans, from firefighters to ordinary street workers, trooped to hospitals in New York and Washington to offer whatever help they could.

"They are heroes and their virtues bring out the best of humanity?" Sin said.

Sin said people from different faiths and races should provide a new meaning to vigilance aimed at achieving justice and world peace.

Quoting Pope John Paul II, the cardinal said the public should be "craftsmen of a new humanity, where brothers and sisters—members all of the same family—are able to at last live in peace."

After the homily, foreign dignitaries, mostly garbed in black suits to symbolize their mourning, broke down in tears as they prayed silently for a few minutes.

After the Mass, Ms Macapagal extended her hand to Malinowski and other foreign officials as a sign of support for the American people. *With reports from Dona Pazzibugan in Manila and Rufino Gonzales II in New York City*

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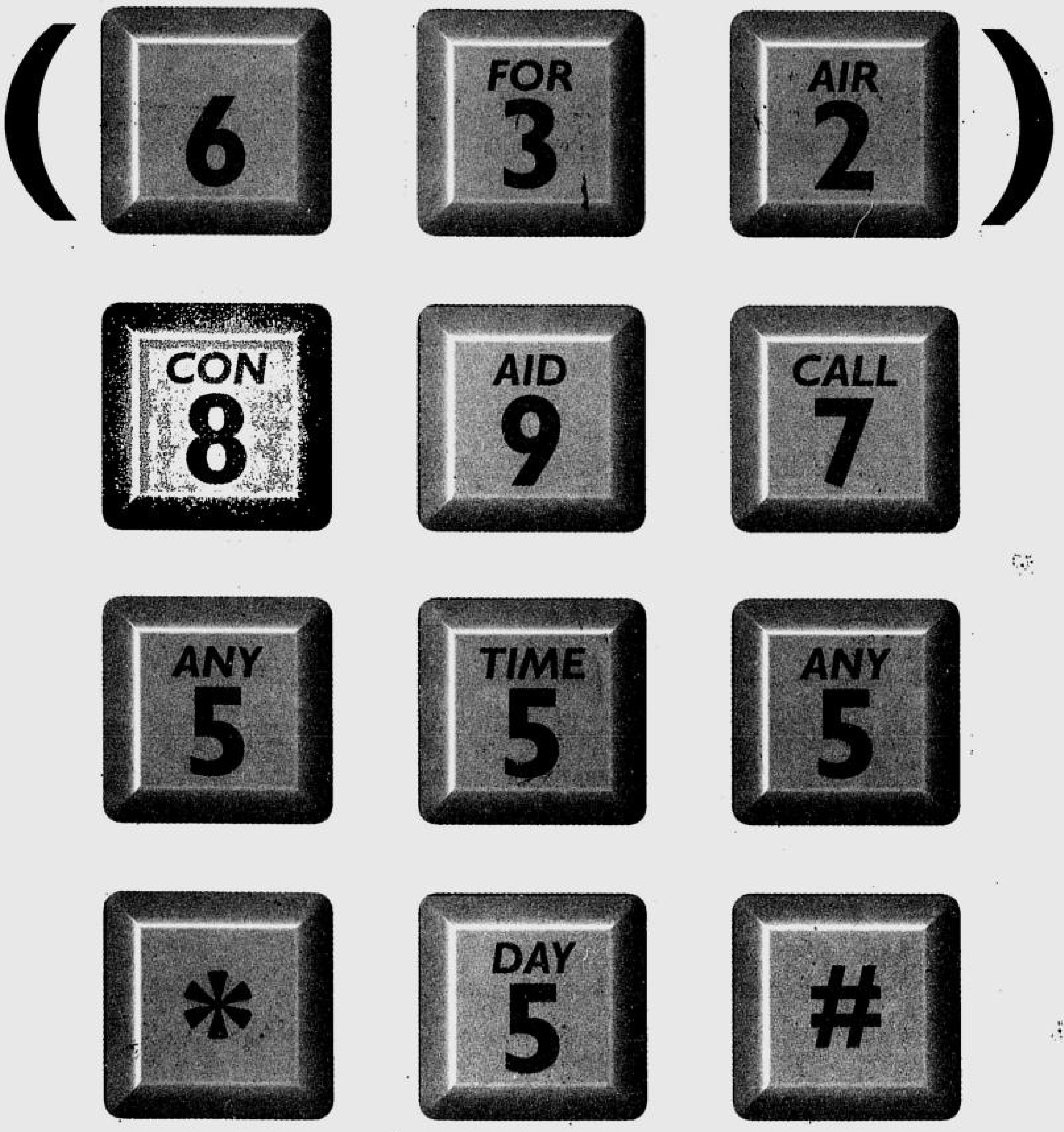

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Pakistan to Taliban: Turn over Bin Laden

(From page A1)

in a baseball game.

"I understand major league baseball is going to start playing again. It is important for America to get on about its life," said Bush, a former baseball team owner.

At the same time, however, Bush made it clear that "normal" would have a different meaning now.

"People may not be able to board flights as quickly," he said. "Our borders are tighter than they've ever been before. We're taking a variety of measures to make sure that the American people are safe."

Baseball games resume Monday, the day the stock markets are scheduled to reopen. Bush said he hoped "the measures we take will allow the American economy to continue on."

Despite Bush's attempt to reassure the markets, there was an immediate economic fallout from the attacks. A drastic drop in air travel and bookings caused Continental Airlines to cut its flight schedule by 20 percent and furlough 12,000 employees—more than one-fifth of its payroll.

For America's armed forces, including reservists being called to duty, Bush had a different message: "Get ready. The United States will do what it takes to win this war."

Diplomatic front

On the diplomatic front, US Secretary of State Colin Powell said Pakistan had agreed to specific requests sought by the United States.

Pakistan's cooperation will be important to any attack on Bin Laden—who lives next-door in Afghanistan and has been identified by US officials as the prime suspect in the attacks.

"I want to thank the president and the people of Pakistan for the support that they have offered and their willingness to assist us in whatever might be required in that part of the world, as we determine who these perpetrators are," Powell said at the Camp David presidential retreat.

Powell earlier said the United States would measure its relations with other countries on the stand they take on terrorism.

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf conveyed his government's willingness to cooperate in a meeting Friday with US Ambassador Wendy Chamberlin, according to sources.

To support the US assault on terrorism, Pakistan also agreed to close its 2,500-km border with Afghanistan, allow its airspace to be used for possible strikes and cooperate in intelligence gathering.

Isolating Taliban

To isolate Taliban rule in Afghanistan, the United States has been urging other countries to sever their ties with the radical Islamic group, citing a UN Security Council resolution approved in December, a senior official said Saturday.

The resolution protested the Taliban's refusal to surrender Bin Laden for trial outside Afghanistan to face terrorism charges.

The senior official, speaking on condition of anonymity, noted that the US request applied particularly to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, two of three countries that recognize Taliban rule.

The third country is Pakistan, which received a US request to break relations with the Taliban over a year ago.

The official said there were some indications that Saudi Arabia and the UAE would agree to sever ties with the Taliban.

On Friday, the state department took the unusual step of summoning ambassadors from virtually all foreign missions here and told them that their countries have the choice of cooperating in combating terrorism or facing isolation.

The message was delivered in separate meetings by top state department officials in charge of overseeing its policies regarding the five major regions of the world—Europe, the Middle East, South Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The meetings were held at the state department after the envoys attended a prayer service at the National Cathedral in memory of the victims of Tuesday's tragedy.

Powell has been attempting to forge a broad-based anti-terrorism coalition, with Islamic countries included. The message delivered on Friday echoed the one US ambassadors have been sending to governments worldwide since the attacks on Tuesday.

The administration wants foreign governments to shut down terrorist groups wherever they exist and to deny them travel rights and access to funding.

"We are receiving expressions of support from around the world—and not just rhetorical support but real support for whatever may lay ahead," Powell said Saturday.

Terrorism list

Countries on the state department's terrorism list generally have not been asked to support the administration's anti-terrorism campaign.

One exception has been Syria, with which US officials have been in contact at a variety of levels since the attacks.

Six of the seven countries on the US terrorism list have condemned the attacks. The holdout has been Iraq, which said the attacks were a case of the United States reaping "the thorns that its rulers have planted in the world."

Disagreement among some officials has surfaced over the timing of an attack on the perpetrators and on how wide a net the United States should cast in its search for coalition partners.

A White House official said the administration wanted the coalition to be in place before the United States retaliated, even if it meant delaying any action for weeks or months.

But a senior official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld wanted to punish the perpetrators once they have been identified. *AP*

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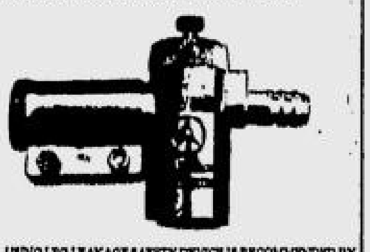

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Plunder case witness denies raps vs Alvarez

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE ACCUSER of Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez has suddenly emerged as his defender.

Venner M. Mendoza, the sole witness in the P76.5-million plunder suit brought against Alvarez in connection with alleged irregularities in the Naia Terminal 3 project, yesterday denied having executed an affidavit alleging malfeasance on the part of Alvarez.

Mendoza denied under oath at the Ombudsman's office the statements attributed to him by former Securities and Exchange Commission chair Perfecto Yasay Jr.

Yasay, who filed the complaint on Monday on behalf of the MIAA-Naia Association of Service Operators (Maso), said Mendoza had claimed that Alvarez should be indicted for plunder for allegedly overpricing the "subterranean structure works" on the Naia 3 undertaken by Wintrack Builders, a Naia 3 sub-contractor.

Mendoza, who is a computer aid design operator (CAD) at Wintrack, had supposedly claimed in a 16-page affidavit that Alvarez "is the beneficial owner of Wintrack."

But on Friday, Mendoza, accompanied by his lawyer Allan Padio, said he had nothing to do with the preparation of the affidavit and the supporting documents ascribed to him by Yasay.

He claimed that his signature had been forged.

Deputy Ombudsman Margarito Gervacio admitted that Mendoza's disclaimer had "disturbed the foundation of the plunder complaint."

In a two-page affidavit submitted to Gervacio yesterday, Mendoza, whose job at Wintrack involved the preparation of computerized drawings of the subterranean structures at the Naia 3 construction site, claimed that sometime in April or May 2001, he was offered a $200,000 to testify against Alvarez.

Mike's kin yielding more land to CARP

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE FAMILY of First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo is giving up an additional 412 hectares of agricultural land to the government's Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

This was learned yesterday from Agrarian Secretary Hernani Braganza in reaction to claims of the militant Task Force Mapalad-Negros Occidental that the department has not acted on the Arroyo properties in Negros which were offered for distribution last June by President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Braganza said the properties covered by the President's announcement were already undergoing documentation.

He said that segregation surveys for some of the properties have been completed.

The survey plans were submitted last month to the Land Management Service of the Bureau of Lands for approval.

Once they are approved, the claim folders would be forwarded to the Land Bank of the Philippines for valuation of the properties.

Braganza said the President's husband has already given to farmer-beneficiaries 242 hectares since 1993.

A report from the Negros provincial agrarian reform officer indicated that of the 242 hectares of Arroyo lands distributed to 180 farmers, 69 hectares came from the Alaja-Agro-Industrial Corp., 59 hectares from J.J. Agro Corp., and 80 hectares from JMA Agro Corp.

The rest came from individual relatives, including 3.21 hectares from Jose Arroyo, 3.11 hectares from Antonio Arroyo, and 27.6 hectares from Jose Ma. Arroyo.

The properties were distributed between 1993 and 2000.

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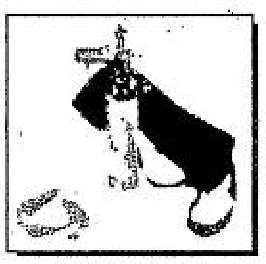

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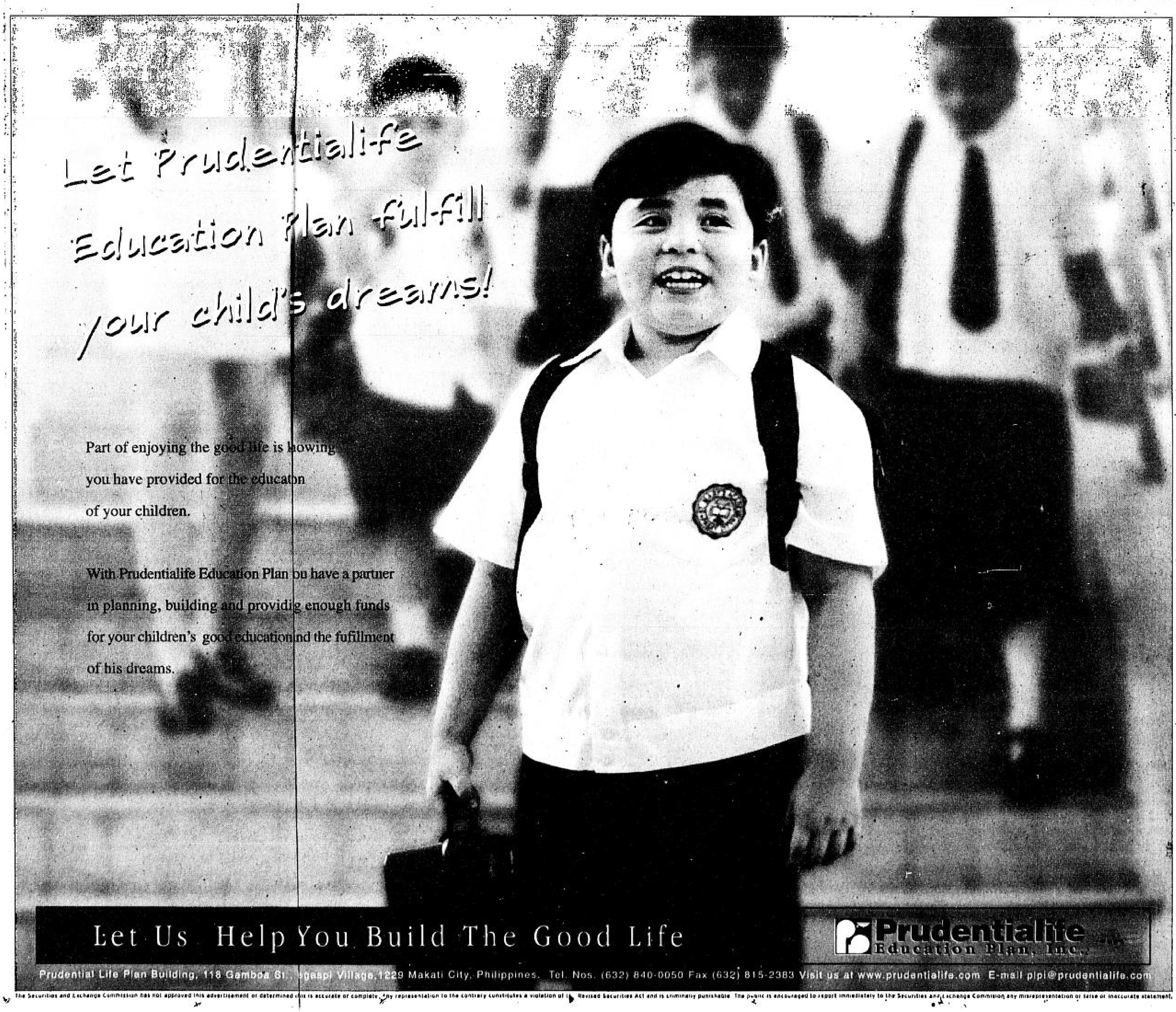

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Ordinary heroes

EDITORIAL

THERE were looters, to be sure. There were quick-buck artists at the gasoline stations, charging much more per gallon than the ordinary conscience could justify. There were even panic-stricken people groping in the dark who tried to grab a fellow victim's flashlight, out of unquiet desperation.

But as with any disaster, we will do best to remember the tragic events at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon a week ago tomorrow through the many acts of kindness and heroism that lit up the suddenly bleak landscape, like a thousand emergency flares.

There were the office workers at the twin towers who, unmindful of their personal safety, shepherded their fellow employees out of the 110-story inferno. The New York Times writes of Harry Ramos, head trader at the May Davis Group, a small investment bank on the 87th floor of the North Tower. As his colleagues made their way downstairs, he decided to stay at the back of the line and help others along. When an injured worker, whom he was helping down the stairs, said he could no longer move his legs, Ramos said, "Don't worry. I'm with you." He sat down beside him on the stairwell of the 36th floor, to offer comfort. It was the last time his officemates saw him alive.

There were the scores of firemen and police officers who responded to the first plane crash with professional alacrity, only to perish in the line of duty when the buildings collapsed. Survivor Ciara Linnane told Agence France Presse she saw 40 or 50 firefighters go up the stairs of the North Tower, the building where she worked, to usher her and other office workers out and to try to fight the flames. "When you think about the reality of us walking downstairs to get out of the building, to live, and those guys going upstairs to their death!" she said. All told, about 300 firefighters and some two dozen policemen remain missing, in all probability buried under literally a million tons of rubble.

And then there were the valiant passengers of United Airlines Flight 93. A series of cellular phone conversations between at least three men—Thomas Burnett, Jeremy Glick and Mark Bingham—and their loved ones creates a harrowing but ultimately heartwarming picture of hostages who decided they would not die without a fight.

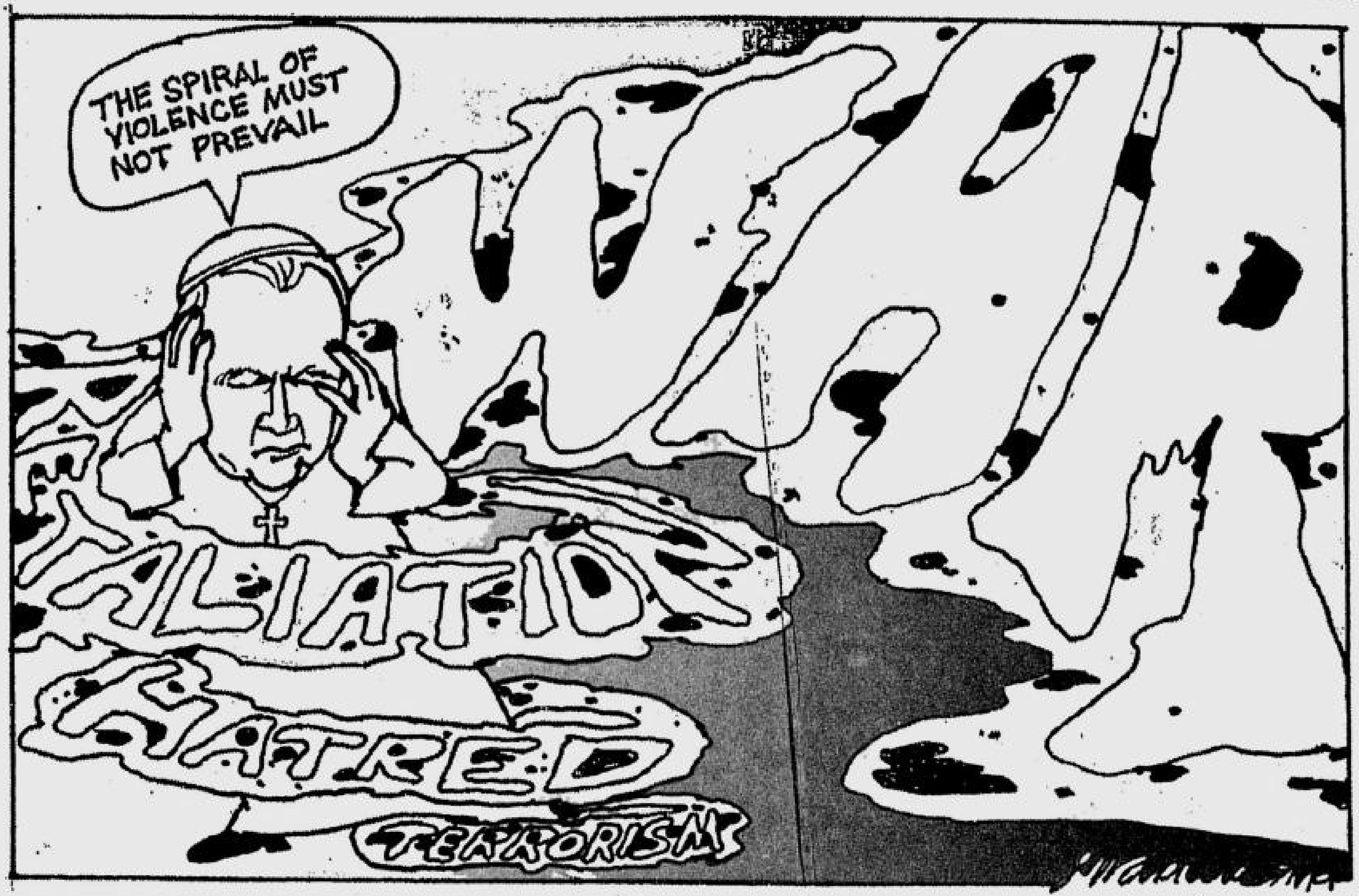
After "three Arab-looking men with red headbands" had taken over the plane, Glick told his wife that he and two or three other male passengers were planning to take on the hijackers and retake the aircraft. Burnett told his wife, "I know we're all going to die—there's three of us who are going to do something about it." His wife pleaded with him to sit down and not draw attention to himself, but he replied: "No, no. If they're going to run this into the ground we're going to have to do something."

Flight 93, the fourth plane to be hijacked, crashed into a corn field in Pennsylvania, miles away from a population center or American landmark.

"The passengers on that plane decided to fight back their hijackers," Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge later said at a vigil. "They undoubtedly saved hundreds, if not thousands, of lives in the process. They sacrificed themselves for others—the ultimate sacrifice."

It is important to draw attention to the extraordinary acts of these ordinary heroes, for two reasons. First, tragedies often bring out the best in people. We have learned this lesson first-hand, after the devastating earthquake of 1990 and the massive Pinatubo eruption in 1991. Second, simple acts of humanity are the exact opposite of a terrorist attack. In a word: they give the lie to terrorism, they represent a victory over terrorists.

A ruthless arithmetic of utility governs all terrorism. For terrorists, the cause is everything; it justifies the deaths of many innocent lives. The value of the individual thus depends merely on his usefulness to the cause. But the countless selfless acts that illumined the stark post-Sept. 11 landscape remind us of a higher truth or two: every individual life is valuable in itself. And death is meaningful only when it saves lives.


THE SPIRAL OF VIOLENCE MUST NOT PREVAIL
WAR
RETALIATION
HATRED
TERRORISM

PIATCO contract for Terminal 3 disadvantageous to gov't

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

RESOLUTIONS have been filed in the Senate and in the House of Representatives to investigate the contract between the government and the Philippine Air Terminals Inc. (Piatco) for the construction and operation of Terminal 3 at Vilamor Air Base of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. This is the contract that Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez refused to make public in spite of the repeated demands of the service operators in Terminals 1 and 2. And he refuses until now to have it reviewed.

Somebody lent me a copy of the contract and, after going over it, it dawned on me why Alvarez wanted to keep it secret. It is a bombshell that can collapse Terminal 3 as devastatingly as the two jetliners that slammed into the twin towers of the World Trade Center.

The provisions of the concession agreement are so lopsided in favor of Piatco that it is easy to imagine that government representatives signed it either with their eyes closed or something (like peso bills?) blocking their eyesight.

The original contract was signed during the administration of President Ramos. Then Transportation Secretary Arturo Enrile signed for the government on July 12, 1997. But that contract was surreptitiously amended during the Estrada administration (on Nov 26, 1998) and supplemented twice (on August 1999 and September 2000) under then Transportation Secretary Vicente Rivera Jr., with government at the losing end. The final contract was not only grossly disadvantageous to the government, it was criminally and scandalously disadvantageous.

The agreement screws the government many times over, as can be seen from the following stipulations:

1. Under the agreement, Piatco would pay the government P750 million annually for 25 years. That is not even half of the P2 billion the government is earning from Terminal 1 and 2, both of which would be phased out by Terminal 3. Thus, the government would suffer a P1.2-billion loss annually.

2. The government is last in line in Piatco's payment obligations. Under the agreement, the government agreed to have payments due it from Piatco postponed should the company run short of funds to pay its loans.

As if that were not enough, the government agreed to assume Piatco's debts to foreign lenders should the company default in payment.

3. Should the contract be terminated because of breach of contract by Piatco or default in financial obligations, the government would necessarily have to contract a new party to complete the project. But if the government enters into a new contract, it would no longer be entitled to recover liquidated damages. By the mere fact of Piatco's default, the government would already be damaged by the delay of the project. But the agreement expressly exempts Piatco from paying such damages if the government awards the uncompleted project to a new contractor.

4. But on the other hand, government is liable for all Piatco obligations.

Should the agreement or any of its provisions be declared invalid, the invalidity is, by express provision of the contract, deemed a default on the part of the government. In such a case, Piatco would be entitled to payment of damages.

Should the government choose to terminate the contract and take over the facility, it is obliged to pay Piatco an amount equal to the value of the initial development expenses released by the lenders, including money loaned to Piatco but not actually used for the project.

5. Even if Piatco's contract is terminated, it is entitled to continue operating Terminal 3 until such time that the government fully pays the liquidated damages due the company. Thus, Piatco will continue earning from operating the terminal even as it collects from the government, resulting in double compensation.

6. Under the agreement, Piatco is authorized to mortgage the whole facility. Clearly, if a mortgage is executed and thereafter foreclosed, the government will be deprived of the very project it contracted out to Piatco.

7. While the government purportedly holds guaranteed concession fees, the agreement "unconditionally and absolutely" authorizes Piatco to deduct from such guaranteed income amounts claimed to have been spent in the removal of "subterranean structures" (pipes, drainage mains, etc.) in the project area.

Under the agreement, the government is obligated to deliver the site clear of "surface, below-surface and subterranean obstructions." The responsibility was turned over to Piatco, with no specific amounts spelled out, to be charged against the guaranteed concession fees. It was as if Piatco was given a blank check.

To date, it is estimated that Piatco and its affiliates have already deducted about P75 million from future government earnings for the alleged removal of said obstructions.

Recently, a letter by an inspector of Piatco's German partners showed that the claim of Winthrop (that's Alvarez's own company) on the areas and volume it has excavated was "grossly overestimated." It was "five times" what has really been accomplished, the German said, but that he would accept the claim, nevertheless. Reason? The government would pay for it anyway, to be deducted from the "guaranteed" concession fees.

(To be continued)

Can it happen again?

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

"CAN it happen again?"

That is the question a child asked her teacher at school in America. And that is a question all of America is asking today. Can it happen again? As everyone who has been following the aftermath of the bombing of the World Trade Center says, nobody really knows for sure. The possibility is always there. But as everyone says as well, America at least is determined to never allow it to happen again.

On the outside looking in, however, you know with almost terrifying certainty that it **will** happen again. The direction America's determination to never let it happen again is taking is the very assurance it will. It reflects a failure to grasp the true dimensions of what has become the profoundest and most urgent question of our time, "Can it happen again?" As shown by CNN over the past several days in interviews with American officials and ordinary citizens, Americans take that question only to mean, "Can an attack on America happen again?" They do not take that question to mean: "Can this scale of human suffering, of wanton violence visited upon thousands of innocent men, women and children, happen again?"

Those are entirely two different questions. They have two entirely different answers.

You take the question in its broader second sense, and you know that the answer is yes. People have been comparing the crash-bombing of the World Trade Center to the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, and at least in terms of sneakiness and murderous efficiency, it resembles it. But there is one other way it could resemble it, and it is not a very pleasant one. Which is that the only other time war was brought to America other than by itself, which was by the Japanese when they bombed Pearl Harbor, it lashed out in ways that made the world forget the original atrocity. That was **not** by sending a suicide mosquito squad to bomb Tokyo in return, as the movie "Pearl Harbor" depicted. That was by dropping atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Few now remember the first—even Americans: one interviewee in Jay Leno's show said that was when the Chinese invaded America—everyone remembers the second.

That horrific deed was justified, and is being justified to this day, as having saved a multitude by the sacrifice of a few thousand lives, notwithstanding that they were innocent civilians. That without the razing of two heavily populated cities of Japan, the war would have been prolonged and many more would have died. That is the kind of logic that makes the atrocity we saw last Tuesday possible.

If there is a difference between Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the aftermath of the atomic bombs that mushroomed one fine August day in their midst, and New York in the wake of two plane-missiles piercing its heart like an ice pick, it is only in that the first left very little rubble compared to the second. The liquid fire melted the buildings and people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as though they were wax, peeling the skins off men, women and children where they stood. But the same keening of the survivors is there, the same ebbing of hope for the disappeared is there, the same feeling of the world having ended is there.

The loss of those Japanese lives is not the lighter because Japan began the war and because the Japanese presumably hold life more cheaply than others. The loss of lives elsewhere in the impoverished world is not the lighter because scrawny mothers with no milk left in their breasts presumably cannot value their children more than others. Love is love, and grief is grief. Unlike the value of money, love and grief do not change value across continents. The loss of a loved one weighs as much in Payatas as in New York.

The pain and grief are understandable, as anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one through senseless violence knows. The anger and need to find redress are understandable, as anyone who has been wronged on this epic scale knows. But the burning desire to strike out at whoever happens to be in the way is not. The consuming need to make others feel the same boundless grief is not.

One would think that people who have endured much suffering and known much sorrow would learn to abhor them so much they would not think to inflict them on others. But such is human folly that people often feel exactly the opposite, the graver their suffering, the stronger their resolve to make others suffer, the deeper their wound, the more pitiless their wish to see others bleed. The Japanese scuttled the American naval base in Pearl Harbor and the Americans razed two Japanese cities in return. The Germans slaughtered six million Jews, and the Jews slaughtered more Arabs to build a home in land that wasn't theirs.

Can it happen again? If that means, "Can America be attacked again?", the answer is "Maybe." The most formidable defense is nothing to the most resolute attacker, particularly one who is determined to die to bring others to share the same fate. But if that question means, "Can the tragedy happen again?", the answer is "Yes." It may not happen in America, but it will happen elsewhere. That scale of human suffering wrought by the hand of vengeance has happened before. That scale of human suffering wrought by the hand of vengeance will happen again.

Unless of course Americans hear through the pounding of their grief what both the Bible and the Koran have been saying since the beginning of civilization: Violence begets violence. Death begets death.

RP projects as an Asian hub for ICT

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

TOKYO—In an earlier column I had commented on the super-tight schedule of President Macapagal's foreign visits. Her working visit to the Japanese capital, which ended last Saturday noon with her departure for Legazpi City, proved even tighter. This was doubtless due to the fact that Japan is the Philippine's second largest trading partner and it was important to reach out to the big pool of Japanese firms with the message that the Philippines be given a second look as an investment site.

So tight was her schedule here that some in the official delegation found it quite difficult to keep pace with her. Housing Czar Mike Defensor counted 15 official appointments last Thursday, but this didn't include the unofficial ones, such as the impromptu dinner and press conference Ms Macapagal held with the Philippine media in the presidential suite at the Imperial Hotel late that night. Sen. John Osmeña, who accompanied her on the trip, counted 17 different groups that she met last Friday. That day's official activities were capped by an intimate cocktail and sit-down dinner at the Imperial Hotel with the captains of the biggest conglomerates in Japan, called *zaibatsu*, and select Philippine business executives. In fact Osmeña remarked to Ms Macapagal that he couldn't see how she could find the energy for all those groups, and according to him, her response was business-as-usual shrug.

* * *

Incidentally, at that dinner, four descendants of Philippine presidents found themselves seated together at the head table: namely, Osmeña, grandson of President Sergio Osmeña; Francis Laurel, grandson of President Jose P. Laurel; and Trade Secretary Mar Roxas, grandson of President Manuel Roxas; and a presidential daughter, President Macapagal, daughter of President Diosdado Macapagal.

Osmeña related to this columnist an interesting episode that happened to him at that dinner. A top Japanese executive businessman noted that Osmeña had come to Tokyo with then President Estrada and sat beside him at a big dinner with Japanese executives. Now this executive noted that he had come with Ms Macapagal and in fact was seated next to her. How do you do it? asked the Japanese. The Cebu senator explained that his family has been in politics for nearly 100 years now, his grandfather having first run for elective office as governor of Cebu in 1904. "We Osmeñas are survivors," he told the Japanese businessman, who retorted, "*So desu ka*."

* * *

I sat through the briefing that Trade Secretary Roxas gave before both Japanese and Filipino business executives at the Otani Hotel during the 23rd joint meeting of the Philippine-Japan Economic Cooperation Committee, co-chaired from the RP side by Francis Laurel and Fernando Zobel de Ayala. Roxas' briefing emphasized the advantages offered by the Philippines as an investment haven, such as its strategic location in Asia; the stable, open-market reform-oriented economy that exhibits a steady GNP and GDP growth in the face of negative results from other countries in the region; the stability of Asia's oldest-working democracy, and its large pool of technically competent, educated people.

Roxas' briefing was competent and well-received. Personally, I learned many things about our country from it, and this made me realize that all too often, because of the spate of negative publicity and self-denigration that is often emphasized back home, we Filipinos fail to appreciate the good things about our country and ourselves. For instance, Roxas spoke about the changing face of the Philippine economy as manifested in the fact that in 1976 we were exporting only 3 percent electronics products but 18 percent minerals; by year 2000 electronics constituted 71 percent of our exports, while minerals were down to one percent. This meant, stressed Roxas, that our exports have acquired a value-added component, our trainable and world-class manpower.

* * *

It is in the field of information and communication technology (ICT), however, that the Philippines is exhibiting a most heartening competitive edge. In fact, given our highly literate, English-speaking ICT workforce, the Philippines is well-placed to become an Asian hub for ICT. What makes this fact impressive is that we are scoring many successes in the ICT field, despite the lack of access of most of our student population to computer facilities. President Macapagal pointed out to the Japanese business executives that a million Filipinos know how to handle the computer. It is also pointed out that of the 350,000 annual graduates of Philippine colleges and universities, nearly 70,000 are in computer-type courses. But listening to all these data, I couldn't help but think that if only our students had the access of the Japanese or the Singaporeans to the same computer facilities, how many more successes they could score.

* * *

Secretary Roxas cited how the Philippines topped the "knowledge jobs" category of the Global New E-Economy Index, a technological competitiveness index formulated by the US-based research firm, "META Group," beating even the more economically advanced countries. Moreover, the UNDP Human Development Report 2000 rated the Philippines as having the third highest literacy rate and the second best education index in Asia. But what proved most heart-warming was the fact that the Philippines has become a virtual mine of top-caliber project managers, systems analysts/designers, application programmers, technical support specialists and data communications specialists. It's a whole new world for Filipino workers.

* * *

In fact, Roxas pointed out that one area of ICT where our people are now being utilized by a number of US-based multinational firms in Manila is in data-processing and conversion. At the end of 1999, SEC-registered companies in these fields numbered over 1,200, but obviously there's room for many more. Jobs for Filipino technicians include data culling from physical documents shipped from the US such as legal records, warranty cards and medical records and converting them here into computer-readable format for easier and more efficient safekeeping in the US. There are also jobs involving customer care and interaction with US clients, e.g., as telephone, call-center and customer-service operators, zip code assigners, etc. Apparently US firms like to get Filipinos to record messages for US clients, as their rates are cheaper than their US counterparts and they blend courteous friendliness and an educated accent appreciated by US customers.

* * *

We have scored many successes in the ICT field, but we have to work harder as this is a global competition and the other countries are not sleeping either. The Macapagal administration obviously realizes this, as in fact the President herself heads the Information Technology and E-commerce Council (ITECC), RP's highest ICT policy-making body. Moreover, the Department of Science and Technology aims to create at least 10,000 certified Filipino ICT professionals by 2004, with the participation of schools nationwide.

Violence in our hearts

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Datu Amir Baraguir

THE CNN footage of Palestinian men firing rifles into the air, women making funny faces, children jumping up in unadulterated jubilation over the World Trade Center tragedy gave me the goose bumps. They are a sight to behold, pathetic and revolting at the same time.

How can human beings rejoice at a tragedy involving their fellow human beings? How can Muslims whose Holy Book proclaims the sanctity of life by equating murder of one human being to massacre of the whole of mankind take pleasure in the senseless death of innocent thousands?

It was a patently inhuman reaction by human beings, a grossly un-Muslim response from Muslims.

The gestures of those men and women were unquestionably unnatural and certainly irreligious. For humankind—created in God's image—is essentially good. And Muslims or, literally, those who submit to the will of the merciful and beneficent Allah, are supposed to be incapable of feelings less than benign and compassionate toward other creatures.

We can only surmise that the spontaneity of the Palestinian gyrations and trigger-squeezing can only be the logical result of deep-seated prejudice against all things "American" or "Western" and, therefore, "anti-Muslim."

But not only some Palestinians, or only some Muslims are guilty of this kind of intense malevolent feeling. In diverse degrees, at one time or another, all of us have felt it in our hearts.

That prejudice and hatred against outsiders reveal themselves in all groups is indisputable. They come in various degrees and forms. They develop along ethnic, religious, linguistic, racial, organizational and other lines.

Clearly, they are learned. By precept or example, they are bequeathed by parents, tribal leaders, church ministers, trainers or politicians.

The worst harbingers of these chauvinistic attitudes are demagogues who expect social, religious, political or fiduciary benefits from continued isolation of their group. They can be your soft-spoken rabbi, grim-looking commandante, or seemingly amiable ustadz. They can make Muslims seethe with anger against Christians or vice-versa, Jews against *goyim*, black against white, male against female.

When fully developed, prejudice turns into a permanent attitude of aggression that can be ubiquitous, urgent and basically unavoidable. The street-dancing Palestinians can be the best picture of such bigotry. The suicidal pilot on those planes that crashed into the WTC towers and the Pentagon can be the worst.

In his comprehensive study "The Nature of Prejudice," Gordon Allport divides prejudice into five degrees of intensity. These are antilocution, avoidance, discrimination, physical attack and extermination.

Antilocution can be expressed in plain badmouthing or subtler prose like Rudyard Kipling who referred to Africans and Asiatics as "new-caught sullen peoples, half-devil and half-child." This, along with avoidance and discrimination, can be enough to lead into the violence of the last two stages. That vicious line can be constantly developed, nurtured and reinforced into its tragic nadir by the demagogue who promises liberation or paradise.

Physical attack and extermination, such as in Hitler's Germany, Stalin's Russia, or Pol Pot's Kampuchea are the final stages of the same aggressive attitude.

Thus, the raw mayhem of crashing planes and collapsing buildings, exploding bombs and torn flesh, crushing bones—all these start from the potent violence that lurks in every human heart. It resides there in the form of feelings less heinous in their latency but no less perilous in their fruition, such as the undiluted intention and unimpeded capacity to perpetrate a bloodbath and sow terror across the globe.

Until and unless our hearts are cleansed from this acquired human malady, we can expect the worst, especially in our high-tech era.

Stop for a moment and think about this: Will you not laugh in celebration if a tragedy happens to your favorite object of hatred? Will you not enjoy even more if the perpetrator is the object of your undying love?

It may be painful to admit that no one is absolutely innocent of the carnage in New York, or of those that will follow, except the ones who carry no seed of ethnic, religious, or ideological rancor in their breasts. But that's the grim reality. Strife in the land starts from the violence in our hearts.

Opportunity for India in US war vs terrorism

NEWS ANALYSIS

Elizabeth Roche

NEW DELHI—The horror of the terrorist attacks on the United States could hold a strategic silver lining for India, which has for years been clamoring for global action against the terrorists it sees on its own doorstep.

With the US warnings of retribution firmly focused—at least for the moment—on Osama Bin Laden and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, and with Pakistan struggling to respond to the crisis, India's support for a global war on terrorism has been loud and unequivocal.

India's position is not without its complications.

Rapidly warming ties with Washington and Israel have not totally erased decades of Cold War mistrust of US muscle flexing overseas or a long-standing sympathy with the Palestinian cause.

But the opportunity of concerted international action against the militant training camps inside Pakistan and Afghanistan that New Delhi alleges have fuelled the Muslim insurgency in Kashmir for more than a decade is clearly too good to be missed.

"India certainly feels that last week's events in the United States are a vindication of its argument that terrorism is a global problem," said Kalim Bahadur, a professor at New Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University.

"Now its campaign against terrorism looks sure to get a major shot in the arm, strengthening India's position regionally and in the international arena."

While India has no wish to see any US military action escalate into a regional conflict, Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee has already made clear its willingness to ride out any negative fallout from anti-terrorist strikes, warning the country to prepare for "harsh measures in the coming months."

And Home Minister L.K. Advani on Saturday left little doubt as to where Delhi feels the hammer of retribution should fall.

"The security scenario in this part of the world cannot disregard the fact that over the last decade or more, the Taliban and Pakistan have been working in tandem to promote terrorism," Advani said.

"(Pakistan and Afghanistan) have openly given refuge and asylum to those who have been indulging in terrorism...Any strategy to counter terrorism should take this factor into account."

In recent years, India has managed to build a healthy relationship with the United States, while watching with some satisfaction as the traditionally strong US ties with arch-rival Pakistan have been eroded.

Analysts here say that satisfaction has turned to private glee at the sight of Pakistan—one of only three countries to recognize the Taliban—under intense US pressure to offer concrete support to the growing alliance against terrorism.

But there have also been words of caution against India over-extending itself.

An editorial in the Times of India at the weekend said "a swift surgical operation" by the United States would be the most comfortable scenario for New Delhi.

"As far as possible, India should not get itself into the battle, leaving Pakistan, which has been covertly sponsoring the terrorist groups, with the moral—and physical—responsibility of offering whatever assistance is needed," the Times said.

Amitabh Mattoo, a professor at the school of international studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University, said India saw an opportunity to realize the "destruction of the social and political bases" of terrorism in its neighborhood.

He also warned, however, that the path presenting itself was "fraught with dangers" in terms of possible regional instability and the impact on relations with those countries in the Arab world where anti-US sentiment runs deepest.

"But given the situation and India's very public anti-terrorist stance, there really is no choice,'" Mattoo said.

Bharat Karnad, a strategic analyst at the Center for Policy Research, said India has much to gain in terms of a further strengthening of ties with the United States and a higher international profile as the country seeks "a leading role" in a global anti-terrorist alliance.

"The government has already offered operational help which could include refueling facilities and other logistical support, besides intelligence sharing," Karnad said, noting US Secretary of State Colin Powell's expression of appreciation for India's "exceptionally strong" support.

On the domestic front, the Indian government is only too aware of the danger that any perceived "anti-Islamic" bias in the US response to the attacks in New York and Washington would risk alienating the country's own Muslim population—the second largest in the world.

During an address to the nation on Friday, Vajpayee took pains to warn against any invocation of religious animosity in the fight against terrorism.

AFP

Missing comics page

READERS' ADVOCATE

Raul J. Palabrica

ALL along, I was under the impression that readers of the INQUIRER buy the newspaper for its editorial content and eye-catching photos. The readers want to get value for the P15 (or more in the provinces) they have to shell out to know what's happening around them.

Last Sept. 13, that belief was changed. It was the day the INQUIRER came out without its usual comics page. Although I noticed that the copy I received that day did not have that feature, I did not give it much thought because I assumed it was placed in another section and that section was inadvertently omitted by the delivery boy.

Later in the morning, I received calls from irate readers demanding an explanation for the disappearance of the comics page. A reader who identified herself as a retired government official said she starts her day by going through the comic strips. Because she did not get to enjoy her favorite comic characters first thing in the morning, her "entire day was ruined."

She gave me an earful on the INQUIRER's obligation to the public to give them what they paid for. Mercifully, she did not demand a refund of the money she paid her news vendor.

Another reader considers the comics page the only exception to the newspaper's parade of negative news. He only reads the news and comics sections. The rest of the newspaper he gives away to the other members of his household. By way of an aside, he disclosed that he wants his newspaper delivered fresh and neatly folded. If it is not, or somebody else browses through it ahead of him, his disposition turns sour.

The reader who poured out his disappointment the longest told me that the crossword puzzle that appears at the comics page is his "mental perkup" every morning. Unless he is able to engage in the puzzle exercise, he finds it hard to smoothly go through his scheduled chores for the day. On that fateful day, he had to buy another newspaper to complete his crossword puzzle routine.

Internal mix-up

Later in the day, I learned that some editors and personnel of the executive offices received complaints of a similar nature. Several callers gave their telephone numbers with the request that the proper official call them back to explain why their favorite section mysteriously disappeared that day.

I didn't realize that some readers can be very passionate or involved in following the activities of their favorite comic characters. I recall that once a reader called to complain that the comic strips that appeared during a particular week were all reruns. She admonished the newspaper for not getting her money's worth in terms of comics page enjoyment.

So what went wrong with the Sept. 13 issue?

It was a case of internal mix-up and oversight. The person in charge of preparing the layout (or draft page) of the comics section forgot to prepare its contents for the following day. He thought he had already completed his work routine for that page and punched out without double-checking if indeed he had.

The INQUIRER apologizes to the readers for their inability to enjoy the Sept. 13 edition of their favorite comic characters and crossword puzzle. It has taken the proper steps to prevent a repeat of the unfortunate incident.

We hope, readers Remy Gaarlan, Carmelita Stuart, Cora Sta. Cruz, Romy Galang and Emy Giologo will find this apology acceptable and a sufficient substitute for a personal explanation about the booboo.

Photogenic official

Carlos the Jackal (yes, that's how he signed his e-mail) of Buhangin, Davao City made a comment that is one for the books. He wrote: "I am surprised. I have not seen an INQUIRER front page featuring Budget Sec. Emilia Boncodin in full color despite her very high profile. Is it because you find her not photogenic? At least some TV news programs feature her. She may not be telegenic but, as they say, beauty is not just skin deep."

I checked the earlier issues of the newspaper to find out if the reader's observation is valid. He was right. Boncodin had not been given front page playup in the same manner as Finance Secretary Lito Camacho, Energy Secretary Vincent Perez, Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong and other high government officials had been treated to.

No, it has nothing to do with Boncodin's looks, said the editors. Her solo photo has not hit the front page yet because there has not been an event where she has figured prominently that the photographers have captured on film. In many "photo opportunity" occasions that she participated in, she was either shown talking to the President or in the company of other government top brass.

How a person looks, or whether he or she is photogenic or not, is not one of the criteria the newspaper uses in determining whose photo should appear on the front page. If a news report is good enough to get front-page treatment, the photo of whoever is part or involved in that report will get a similar playup. Boncodin's turn at the INQUIRER's front page will surely come, sooner or later. But whether or not that projection will be favorable to her remains to be seen.

The reader ended his letter with the following note: "For a change, here's one positive comment. The best analytical writer I've ever read was the one written for the PDI front page by your science columnist, the day after Danny Devnani did a Chavit Singson and spilled the beans on Estrada, Panfilo Lacson, Atong Ang and their cohorts. It was unlike other columns or opinions that use philosophy, logic and analogy. The article used psychology and psychoanalysis. I expect more such articles to come."

The readers' advocate may be reached at the following address: "The ***Readers' Advocate****" c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City." Or through fax nos. 897-4793 to 94, or readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph.*

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO. . .?

Robbery and homicide raps vs. policeman

NARCOTICS police Gilbert Gili and civilian agent Ralph Frivaldo were charged with robbery and homicide before the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office on July 14, 2000. They were charged for robbing a pedestrian and killing a security guard in Cubao, Quezon City on July 13, 2000. (PDI, 7/15/00).

Marife Sebidan said she was walking with a friend on Roxas Street near the corner of Romulo Street in Araneta Center, Cubao when Gili and Frivaldo allegedly accosted her, grabbed her Roma Italy Fendi handbag worth P500 and a P150-worth umbrella. Upon seeing the commotion, Charlie dela Cruz, a security guard assigned at the southern gate of Fiesta Carnival, tried to intercede but he was allegedly shot by Gili. Dela Cruz sustained several gunshot wounds and died on the spot.

The case was raffled off to the sala of Judge Ma. Theresa dela Torre-Yadao of Branch 81 on July 18, 2000. The accused were committed to the Quezon City Jail on July 21, 2000. There was no bail recommended.

On Aug. 17, 2000, the accused filed a motion with the court seeking the conduct of a preliminary investigation. On the same they, the were arraigned and pleaded "not guilty." They also filed a petition to post bail on Sept. 5, 2000.

Case status: In an order issued last Dec. 22, the court dismissed the case. The complaining witness, Dela Cruz's wife, has executed an affidavit of desistance saying she is no longer interested in prosecuting the case. Judge Yadao said the guilt of the accused cannot be proven beyond reasonable doubt without her active participation.

Armin P. Adina, PDI Research Department

The 'ideal' canal to drain Pinatubo

LETTERS

I HOPE and expect it is an intelligent design of the slope of the initial canal which is now in Pinatubo. The secret of success is the correct slope of the canal based on many factors, but not the size. Size is only to speed up emptying the lake. The initial small canal is the safest, in order to be able to study and observe the very important erosion control

If the initial canal as dug happens to have a slope with non-eroding velocity, the canal will therefore not become deeper. After so many days, the water surface of the lake will go down to the level of the bottom of the non-eroding canal and the flow will stop. Every time we want the flow to resume, we repeat this manual digging. Soon, we shall have a very deep canal with water at the bottom flowing only a few meters deep. It will be a heck of a job to manually excavate and deepen further this canal.

If, somehow, a canal could be dug with a very carefully studied slope which will be just enough to produce a velocity that will erode the bottom of the canal at exactly the same rate that the water surface of the lake is going down, then an "ideal canal' is attained. The water will do the digging instead of repetitive manual diggings. This natural digging through controlled erosion will automatically stop only at an underground hard rock ridge, which will not erode. Keep in mind that the water flowing in this gradually deepening canal is always only a few meters deep and the flow can be stopped by dropping rocks and soil to plug the flow. This is the safest "ideal canal" to drain this lake.

Further study on this subject is in textbooks on "Open Channel Flow." After all, there are only 13 flows to be studied. The most common is where the w.s. slope is the same as the canal bottom slope or a uniform flow. The other 12 are where the w.s. slope is a curve and therefore not the same as the canal bottom slope. They are 3-mild slope, 3-steep slope, 2-critical slope, 2-horizontal slope and 2-adverse slope.

I hope the flow in the present initial canal is being carefully monitored, measured and studied. We need velocity distribution.

Who is the person who will be responsible for starting the flow from Pinatubo Lake without actual sub-surface investigation? Apparently, nobody! But this responsibility will only be evoked after a disaster, which the undersigned hopes and prays will never be.

May I suggest: (1) Do not enlarge the canal. Let the water do it. (2) Be happy that the present flow is sufficiently draining the lake unless the flow is increased by further rain. (3) In the meantime, make actual borings along a line parallel to the circumference of the lake, hopefully, long enough to insure that if the canal will widen, there is still hard/firm rock across and beyond the entire width of the canal, which the water will dig. (4) Above all, please identify very clearly who will make the decisions, including doing or not doing my above suggestions. He will get either the blame and, of course, we all expect and pray, will also get the credit.

I have great respect and faith in the wisdom of our government engineers and Philvocs scientists. But after reading last Friday that there were no actual borings, then, similar to my above example structural engineer, we will all be depending on probably good rock underneath plus good luck for everybody.—**ANGEL LAZARO JR., chair, Board of Consultants/NBCRC-DPWH**

Big Pagcor profits underscore evil of gambling

I STRONGLY support President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's declared stand not to reopen the operations of jai alai, a game of a thousand delights that has resulted in thousands of broken families.

Jai alai is evil, immoral and unproductive. Legal and illegal forms of gambling proliferate. They paint a bad picture of our poor and devastated country.

I am shocked that Pagcor's income in July this year reached an astounding P1.6 billion. The agency's gross income for the first seven months of the year was P9.92 billion, 22 percent higher than last year's income for the same period of P8.17 billion.

This is a grim scenario because the huge income of Pagcor shows that players face a bigger probability of losing not only their money but also their pants.

The only way for our country's economy to move forward is to open the door for our people to participate in economic efforts. We should help push our agriculture sector, promote peace and order. Our people need to be trained in entrepreneurship and cooperativism so that they can avail themselves of the financial assistance of the Land Bank of the Philippines, People's Credit Financing Corp. and other lending institutions.

I am consistent in my fight against gambling and any unlawful activities, and I shall not waver in this crusade. We need the help of everyone—military and police agencies, and most especially the people—to finally win this heated confrontation between good and evil.—**ERNIE D. CLARETE, representative, House of Representatives, N-404, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Quezon City**

One road intersection too many

IN AN ATTEMPT to better serve the interest of the newly opened Robinson's Metro East along Marcos Highway at Pasig/Marikina, an island stretch fronting the mall was demolished and several trees fallen to give way to an access intersection for the convenience of its patrons. A traffic light is ostensibly being built for this purpose. What makes it so laughable if not downright brainless is that this new access opening is barely 100 meters from two intersections with traffic lights: the one at the intersection of Marcos Highway and Imelda Avenue and the other at Dela Paz Street. Because of this, traffic has greatly worsened in the area.

It is very amusing why the Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Environment and Natural Resources and other government agencies agreed to this stupid idea of opening up that portion. *Malakas kaya ang taga*-Robinson's?

Paging the DPWH: please reconsider your decision and close that street portion immediately in the interest of the greater public. *Huwag kayong masyadong magpahalata.*—**NOLITO P. SOLOMON, 102 Soliven Ave., Greenpark, Cainta**

A crime against all of mankind

WE CONDEMN in the strongest terms the madness of terrorists who killed innocent people wholesale at the World Trade Center in New York City.

Such beasts don't deserve to walk the face of the earth. They and their ilk have to be wiped out in the name of peace and justice.

Worse, the visible rejoicing of the Iraqis over the horrible murder of humanity in New York amid mourning of the world makes them objects of global ire and probable retaliation by the United States and NATO countries.

The treacherous attack on defenseless people was far worse than Pearl Harbor, a military target.

Moreover, the cheering over the killing of innocent people is too ghastly for words and fills one with as much revulsion as the deed itself. They are no longer human.

We can easily understand the hatred spawned by the mayhem of such a multitude.

But still we hope there won't be another Hiroshima and Nagasaki. After the bloody carnage that claimed tens of thousands of innocent lives, we pray for sobriety and civility.

Only the perpetrators and those who shield them have to suffer for the barbaric crime against the whole of mankind.—**JOE C. MARQUEZ, Daangbatang, Moonwalk, Parañaque City**

America's missing from its policies

THERE can be no question about it. Those who were responsible for the terrorist attacks in the United States should be "hunted down and punished," as President Bush aptly put it.

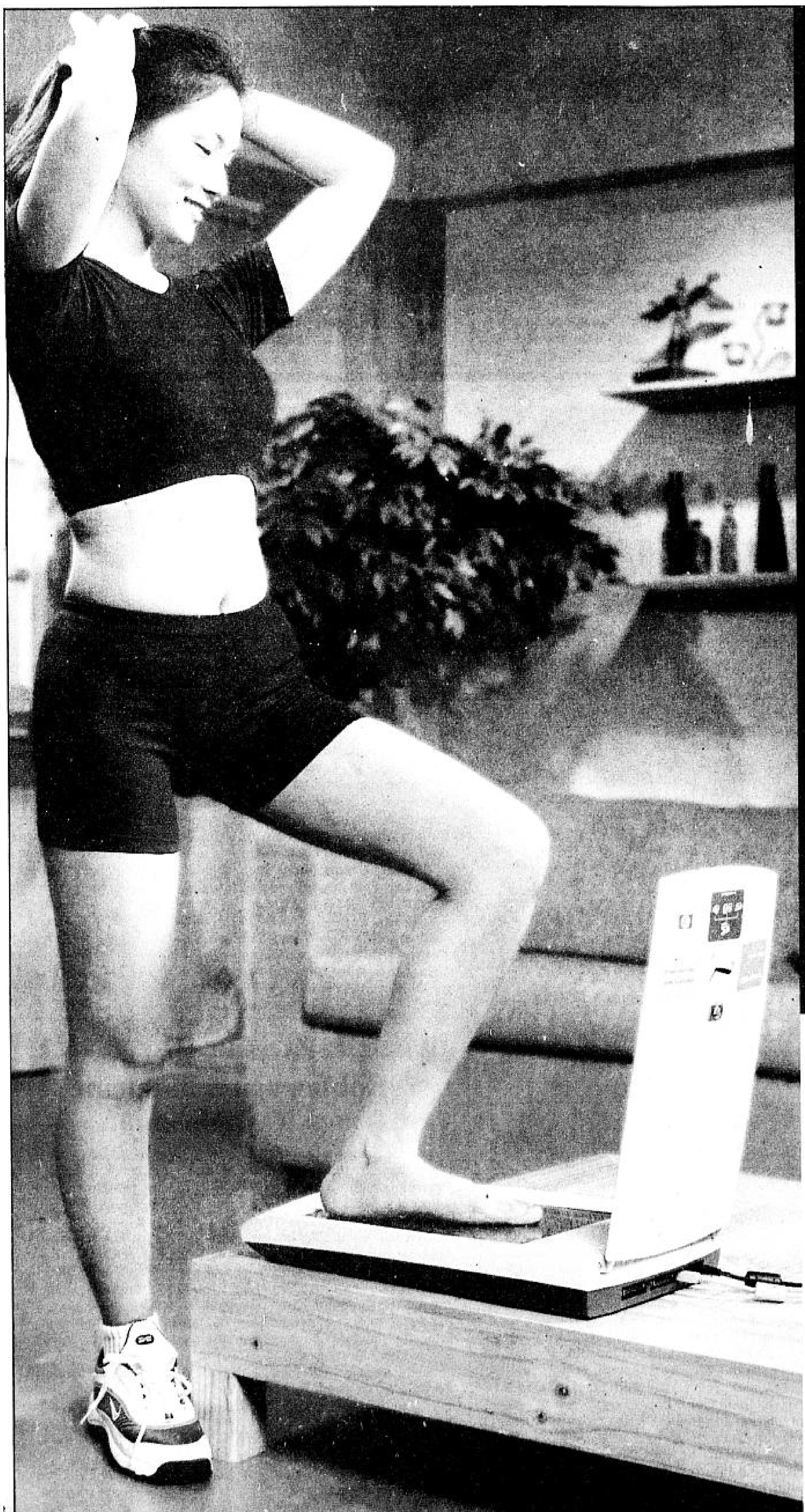
But hunting and punishing the culprits are not enough. Even if the United States succeeds in wiping them off the earth's face, they will be replaced with new ones, perhaps more vicious and deadlier, if their source is not eradicated. The source, I submit, is Washington's relentless pursuit of arrogance and greed in dealing with the world.

The hatred which moved the terrorists to hijack four US commercial airplanes and turn them into weapons of destruction had their roots in the creation of Israel in 1948, in Washington's policies which have sustained Israel against the Arabs up to this day, and in the arrogance and greed which underpinned the Gulf War and Washington's bomb-at-will policy toward Iraq.

The US-driven globalization, which cold-bloodedly enlarges the income gap between the many who are poor and the few who are rich within a nation and among nations, is right now building up a new, more dangerous hatred directed against Washington and the transnational corporate giants. This hatred, now itself globalized as last demonstrated in Genoa, is approaching its explosion point.

Let President Bush hunt down the culprits and bring them to justice. But what US policy crucially needs is an unmistakable heart, a heart which will let the Arabs experience real compassion and justice in US hands and make globalization truly inclusive—not for the few rich and powerful alone but for all the six billion people in the world.

In Washington's Arab-Israeli and globalization policies, I terribly miss America's heart as displayed in the Atlantic Charter, the American Declaration of Independence and, to a certain extent, even at Bretton Woods.—**AMADO GAT INCIONG, Inciong and Associates, Unit 301 Union Square Condo. 145 15th Ave., Cubao, Quezon City**



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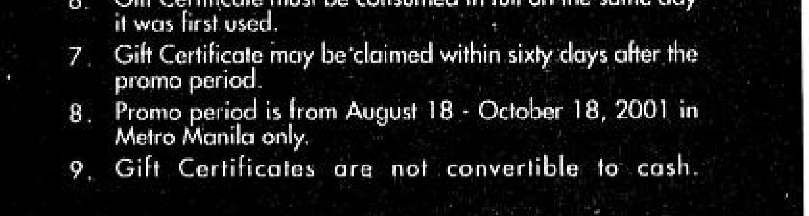

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The WORLD

LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

Pentagon workers had 35 minutes to escape

WASHINGTON—The Pentagon's west side withstood the impact of a hijacked jetliner for up to 35 minutes before collapsing, giving people inside precious time to escape, a Pentagon official said Saturday.

The building's west wedge was held up by steel beams built into its exterior wall during a recently completed renovation, said Lee Evey, the project's manager.

Evey noted somberly the death and destruction from the attack would have been "much, much worse" had it not been for the blast protection features.

Two of Evey's employees were about 15 to 22 meters away, on the outer corridor of the building's fifth floor, when the American Airlines Boeing 757 slammed into the building's west side, he said.

"They don't have a scratch on them," he told reporters here.

He said they crawled through every office on the fifth floor, making sure survivors got out.

"They did the same thing on the fourth floor, directly above where the plane went in, and the third floor. They crawled (through) the second floor—every single room—just to make sure that if anyone was there that survived got out."

Evey said they were unable to reach the first floor because of the crash damage, so they crawled out.

"This structure held, did not collapse, for about 30 to 35 minutes," he said. "It gave them time to do that. It gave people in the building time to escape the area."

The Pentagon said the remains of 85 people have been recovered from the building, 77 of which have been transferred to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware for identification.

FBI agents, firefighters, rescue workers and engineers work at the Pentagon site Sept. 14. The US military said on Sept. 15 it would cost "hundreds of millions" of dollars to repair the damage caused by a hijacked jetliner striking its 48-year-old headquarters. That comes on top of a $758-million modernization program, already under way, to upgrade and strengthen the world's largest office building. REUTERS

With little hope of finding survivors, teams pressed on with the grim work of recovering remains of the victims, now estimated to number 188, and of shoring up the structure and clearing out rubble and debris.

"We'll always continue to have hope. Time is working against us," said Joseph Albaugh, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, struggling to keep his emotions under control after visiting the site.

"It'll be some time before we can recover everyone. These forces behind us are working as fast as we possibly can," he said.

Workers were trying to get heavy cranes in to remove the heavy debris, but the effort has been complicated because the area adjacent to the building has tunnels that could collapse under their weight, Evey said.

The plane cut a diagonal swath through three rings of offices, taking out reinforced steel columns before coming to rest in a drive that runs between the building's "B" and "C" rings, he said.

The fully-fueled aircraft clipped highway lamp posts and struck a generator as it came in over a helipad on the west side of the building at high speed.

But Evey said the plane's path was slowed and the swath of destruction contained by the frame of six-by-six inch steel beams reinforcing the building's limestone outer walls.

Other life-saving features included heavy blast-resistant windows that withstood the force of the crash, and kevlar shielding behind the walls to stop blast fragments, he said.

They were designed and tested with terrorist bombings in mind when the renovation work began three years ago, he added. *AFP*

Union advises pilots to fight, not cooperate with, plane hijackers

BY LEIGH STROPE

WASHINGTON—With terrorists now using aircraft as weapons, a union representing commercial airline pilots is advising its members to act aggressively when confronted by hijackers.

Pilots have been taught in yearly training sessions to cooperate with hijackers. But that was before Tuesday's terrorist attacks.

"We've been guarding against the traditional hijacker who wanted the aircraft on the ground and his monetary or political demands met," said David Richards, a US Airways pilot from Charlotte, North Carolina. "Never ever did we dream they would be using the aircraft as weapons."

The Air Line Pilots Association said pilots should consider depressurizing the plane or taking drastic maneuvers to keep assailants off balance and away from the cockpit:

Pilots said increased security measures at US airports, including banning curbside check-ins and limiting access to ticketed passengers beyond security screening points, are not enough.

Among the association's recommendations:

- Captains should not hesitate to exercise their fullest authority. If there is any doubt or suspicion about flight security, they should not close the door for departure until it is resolved.
- Captains should review emergency procedures with the flight and cabin crew if there is a hijacking or bomb threat.
- Aircraft cockpits are equipped with a crash ax, which should be considered a potential defensive weapon if there is a suicidal hijacking. The ax should only be wielded if the crew member is convinced that using it is necessary to save lives. The pilot must be prepared to kill a cockpit intruder.
- Airlines should implement a system to identify each passenger and their baggage.
- If any type of security event begins in the cabin, pilots should not hesitate to declare an emergency and land the aircraft.
- If the aircraft has a cockpit door, the pilot should close and lock it and not allow anyone to enter without knowledge and consent.

Doors should have a dead-bolt lock.

Richards, who was piloting an 8:30 a.m. Tuesday flight from Boston to Charlotte, was forced to land in Richmond, Virginia, after the World Trade Center crashes. When he returns to the cockpit Monday, he will do things differently.

"I'm going to brief the flight attendants about ways to communicate with me in the event that things aren't going right in the cabin," he said.

"I'm probably going to have to brief the first officer on what we would do as a team if someone came in unannounced to the cockpit—what our immediate reaction would be. It would be 180 degrees completely different than what it would have been three weeks ago." *AP*

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EU's police: Don't rush to blame Bin Laden

LONDON—The head of the European Union's law enforcement arm warned on Saturday against rushing to blame the Saudi-born militant Osama bin Laden for masterminding Tuesday's attacks on New York and Washington.

Juergen Storbeck, the director of pan-European police force Europol, told the Daily Telegraph newspaper that a wide ranging investigation was required to avoid bringing the wrong people to account.

"It's possible that he (Bin Laden) was informed about the operation, it's even possible that he influenced it, but he's probably not the man who steered every action or controlled the detailed plan," Storbeck said.

"As for the idea that, sitting in Afghanistan, he could have controlled the last phase of the operation is something we should not accept without a lot of doubt," he said.

"Bin Laden is not the automatic leader of every terrorist act carried out in the name of Islam."

US president George W. Bush on Saturday singled out Bin Laden, based in Afghanistan under the protection of its radical Islamic government, as a prime suspect behind the attacks which may have killed over 5,000 people.

Bin Laden himself has insisted again that he was not responsible for the devastating terror attacks on New York and Washington, an aide told the Afghan Islamic Press on Sunday.

"I am residing in Afghanistan. I have taken an oath of allegiance (to Taliban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar) which does not allow me to do such things from Afghanistan," Bin Laden was quoted as saying in a statement provided by the political aide.

"We have been blamed in the past, but we were not involved," he was quoted as saying.

AIP said it had received the fax from an undisclosed location in Afghanistan.

The Daily Telegraph said Europol was giving serious consideration to claims that some sort of state-sponsored terrorism was involved but had no hard evidence.

"There are a lot of people with the same philosophy who may have been to Bin Laden's training camps, but are not necessarily under his orders," Storbeck said.

Europol, established by the EU's 15 member states to tackle such issues as terrorism, money laundering and illegal immigration, set up an anti-terrorism task force crisis center immediately after the attacks.

In related news Academic Noam Chomsky, a noted critic of US foreign policy, said on Saturday in Mexico City that US retaliation for this week's terror attacks would be a "gift" for its chief suspect, Bin Laden.

In an interview with left-leaning Mexican daily La Jornada, Chomsky said Tuesday's attacks on US landmarks would spark "a new type of war" benefiting "the hard men" of the United States and their guerrilla counterparts abroad and harming the poor.

"The terrorist attack was a greater assault on the poor and oppressed of the world. The Palestinians will be flattened by this," said Chomsky, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"It's a gift to the jingoistic hard right of the US and of Israel. And the planned response will be... a gift to Bin Laden... exactly the type of reprisal action he and his friends want," Chomsky added.

The United States is garnering support from international allies in preparation for a possible offensive in retaliation for the attacks. Speculation has centered on Afghanistan as a target of the military response since it is sheltering bin Laden.

Chomsky warned that any massive military response from the United States and its allies could provoke more and possibly worse terror attacks from guerrillas who were content to die through their actions. *Reuters*

BIN LADEN, as posted on Interpol's wanted list.

Iran seals Afghan border

TEHRAN—Iran is sealing off the border with Afghanistan to prevent an influx of refugees if the United States makes a retaliatory strike on the country, the official IRNA news agency said Saturday.

It cited an interior ministry statement saying that army and police forces have been deployed to close Iran's eastern border with Afghanistan, where the ruling Taliban are believed to be harboring terror suspect Osama bin Laden.

"Military and police forces have been deployed along the eastern border to prevent the influx of would-be Afghan refugees into Iran in the aftermath of probable US attacks," the ministry said, according to IRNA.

Iran has already been at work in recent years to close the 900-km border with Afghanistan in a bid to stem the crush of Afghan refugees as well as a growing trade in drugs smuggling.

Iran, home to more than one million Afghan refugees, does not recognize Afghanistan's ruling Taliban militia, which ousted President Burhanuddin Rabbani in 1996.

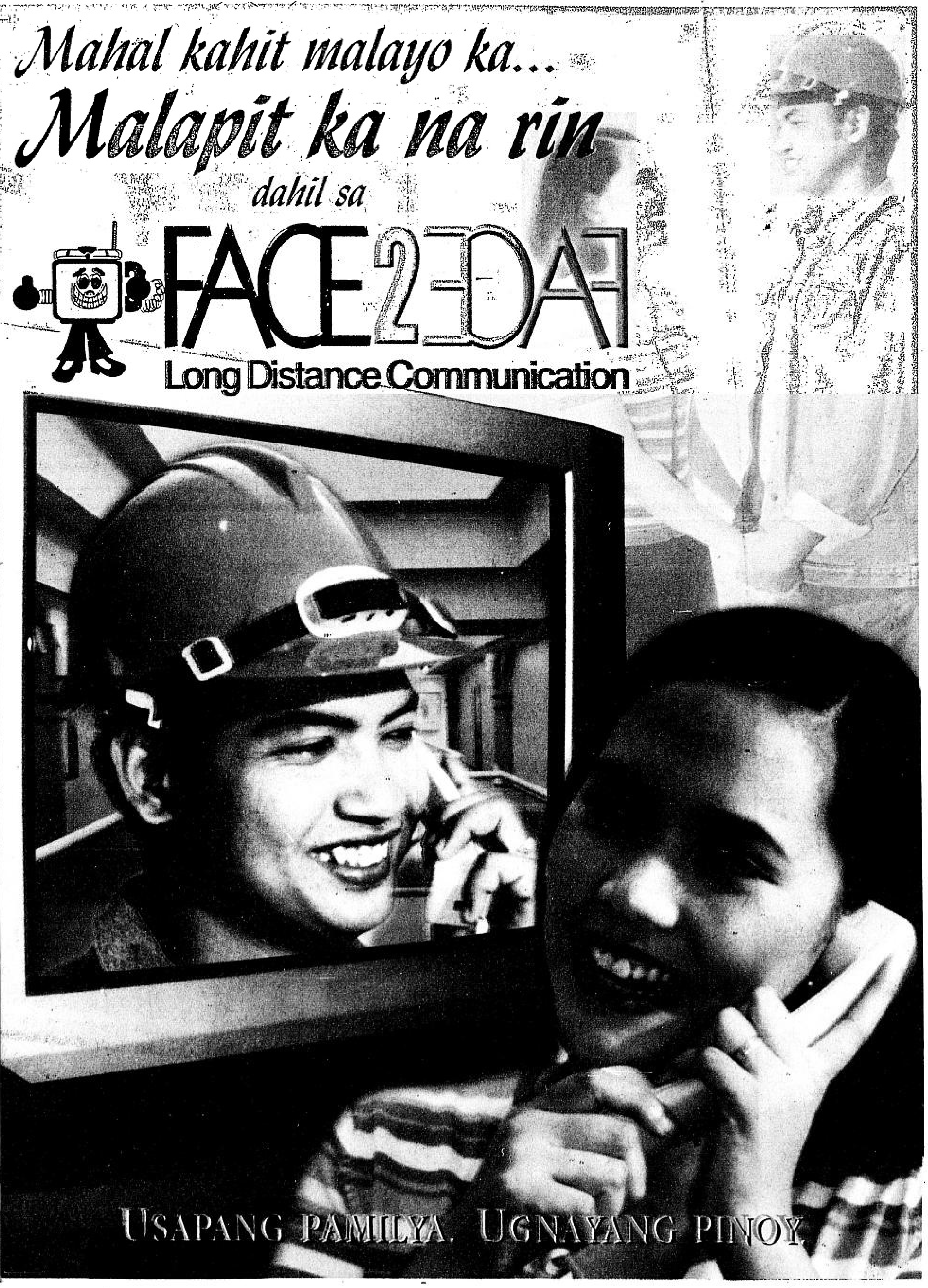
The Saudi-born bin Laden has been named as Washington's "prime suspect" in the Sept. 11 terror attacks on the symbols of US economic and military might in New York and Washington.

The Tehran ambassador of the ousted government told AFP earlier that any US retaliation strikes on Afghanistan should spare innocent civilians.

"I hope that my country is not the target of an American attack," Mohammad Kheirkhah said. "But if, in the context of the anti-terrorist battle, the Americans want to do something, let them act only against terrorists, while sparing the people," he said.

"Any action against terrorists should target the Taliban, Osama bin Laden and their Pakistani protectors," he added. "If the action is a blind act, and innocent people suffer, then of course we are against it."

Iran's interior ministry also called on provincial officials to continue cooperating with domestic and international relief agencies to help Afghan refugees. *AFP*



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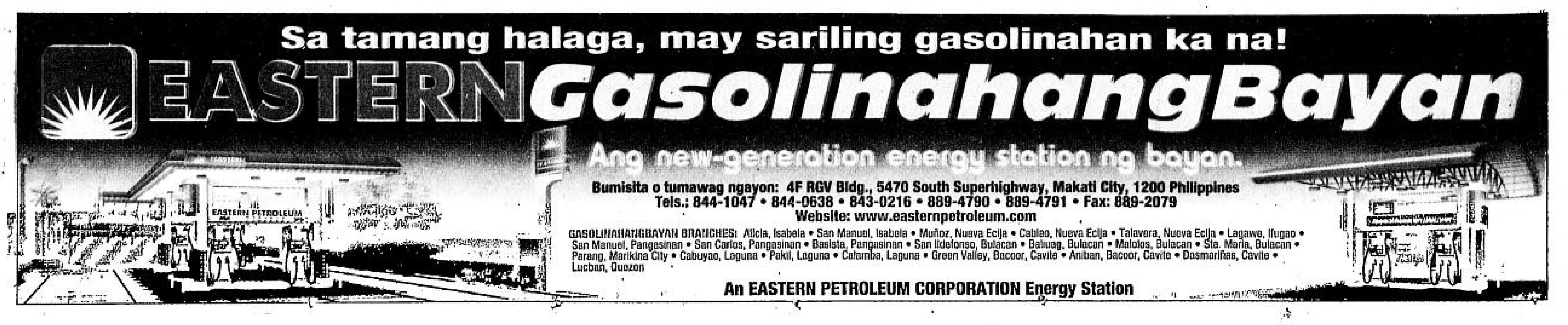

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Nauru consigns boat people to wasteland

AUCKLAND—Around 500 mainly Afghan asylum seekers will live on a bleak wasteland in the impoverished central Pacific island of Nauru while awaiting to learn if any nation will accept them as refugees, a government spokesperson said Sunday.

The move comes amid growing discontentment among the 11,000 people on the Micronesian island to Monday's expected arrival of the refugees.

Most of the refugees were intercepted off Australia's Christmas Island last month after being rescued by the Norwegian ship, Tampa, from a sinking Indonesia boat.

The Australian navy took 433 asylum-seekers off the Tampa and two weeks later picked up another 237 off a second Indonesian boat trying to sail to Australia.

Nauru agreed to accept 520 of the refugees after Australia controversially refused to allow them on to Australian soil. New Zealand agreed to accept the rest.

The Australian navy vessel Manoora is bringing the asylum-seekers to Nauru where their refugee claims will be processed.

The around 500 people were to have gone into a relatively comfortable 34-house coastal village purpose built for the now canceled world weightlifting games.

But Nauru government spokesperson Chris Hawkins said Sunday the village accommodation deal was now off because of landowners' demands.

He said they would instead be forced to live at the Topside Sports Field, a bleak strip-mined piece of land in the center of the island.

Nauru, a single 21 sq. km. island, has been strip-mined of its phosphate topsoils leaving most of it a hot, barren desert of bleached coral pinnacles with no water or facilities.

The Australian military is urgently erecting basic shelters to make the conditions close to bearable while a private company is to provide security.

Nauru, once one of the world's richest states per capita, is now on the verge of default and Australia is paying $20 million Australian (US$10 million) to Nauru to process the refugees.

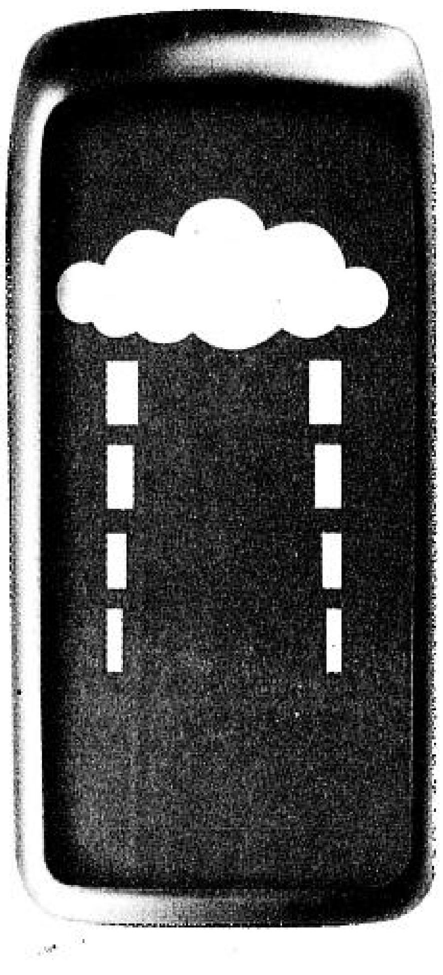
The latest issue of an underground newspaper printed by a group opposed to the secretive Nauru government questions the whole refugee process.

"The people of Nauru, although having recently befallen economic hardships, continue to enjoy a simple and peaceful life far removed from threats of serious criminal activities, dangers of war and dangers of social unrest for which much of the world must live with," the newspaper, Visionary, said.

"We take for granted our freedom to sleep out in the open, to let our children play outside unsupervised, to live in open houses, and to walk any parts of Nauru freely and without fear.

"This aspect of our life adds to its quality and can not be measured in monetary terms."

Visionary also said Nauru was already suffering because of economic failures. *AFP*



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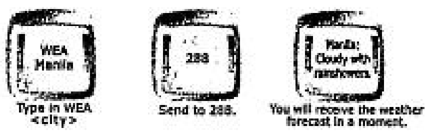

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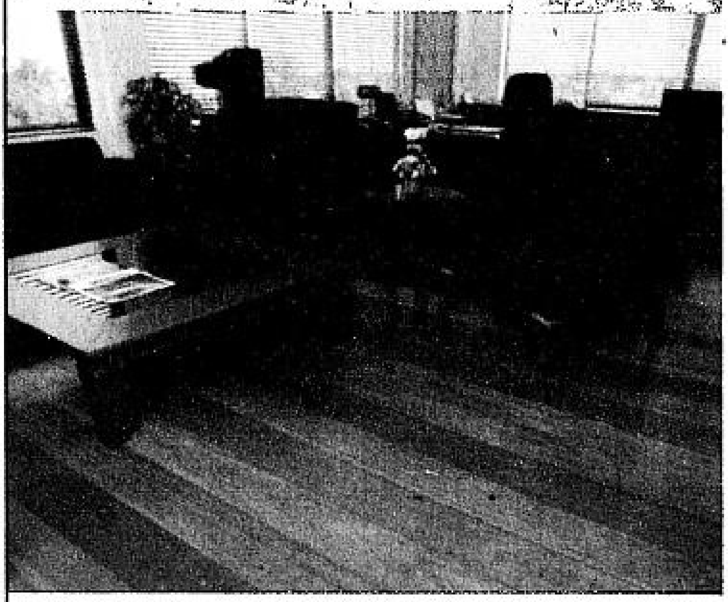

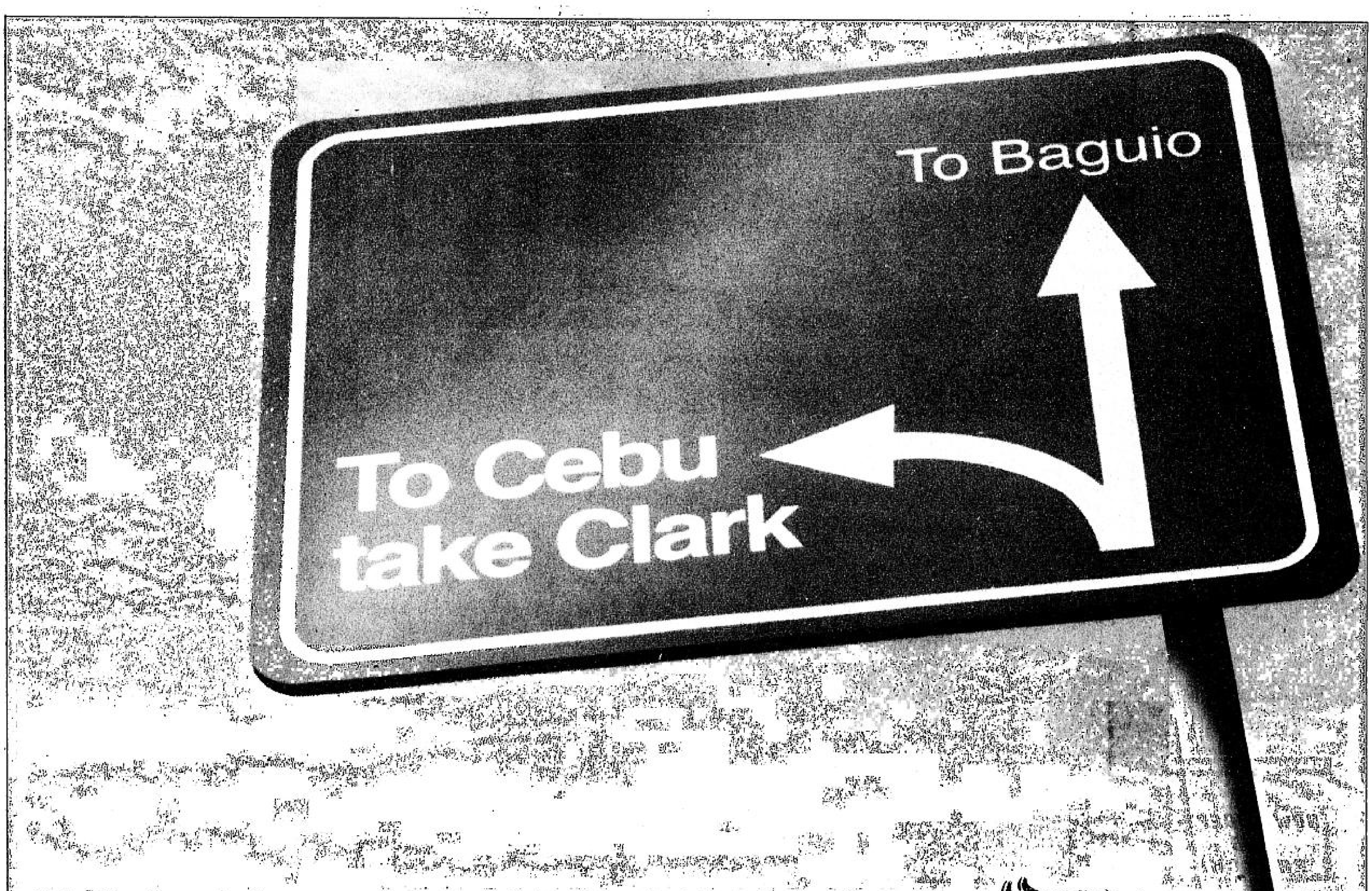

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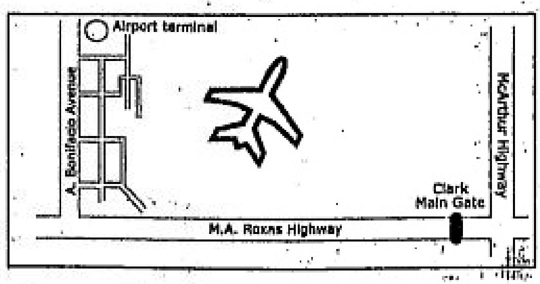


Israel mounts land, sea, air raids

GAZA CITY—Israel launched a wave of land, sea and air strikes against Palestinian positions Saturday, a day after Prime Minister Ariel Sharon abruptly cancelled planned ceasefire talks.

Israel mounted major assaults in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which left three Palestinians dead, despite renewed international efforts to secure the talks between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Arafat called the attacks an Israeli attempt to "sabotage" the much-anticipated talks with Peres aimed at ending a year of bloodshed, which has claimed more than 800 lives.

"This is intended to sabotage the meeting," Arafat said after talks in Gaza City with the Russian Middle East envoy Andrei Vdovin.

"It is an escalation to continue to implement their plan for 'oranim,'" he said, using the Hebrew word for hell.

Late Friday, Sharon called off the talks which had been set for Sunday, saying they would be "inappropriate" after the terrorist attacks which killed thousands of people in the United States.

"The prime minister didn't cancel the meeting. He thinks that it's an inappropriate time if Arafat cannot come through with real measures and steps to stop the violence," a senior Israeli official said adding that the meeting may be held later.

Hours after the talks were called off, Israeli forces unleashed assaults on Palestinian targets.

Overnight, there were incursions into the West Bank town of Ramallah and the northern Gaza Strip town of Beit Hanun, injuring eight Palestinians, one of them seriously, Palestinian security sources said.

There was a third incursion at Qarara, east of the central Gaza Strip Gush Katif settlement bloc, the same sources said.

Early Saturday, two Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli soldiers near the Khan Yunis refugee camp in the southern Gaza Strip in circumstances that have yet to be determined.

The funeral for the two teenagers were followed by clashes between Palestinian stone-throwers and Israeli soldiers which claimed another Palestinian victim and left 20 others injured, bringing the death toll for the year-old wave of violence to 806 people.

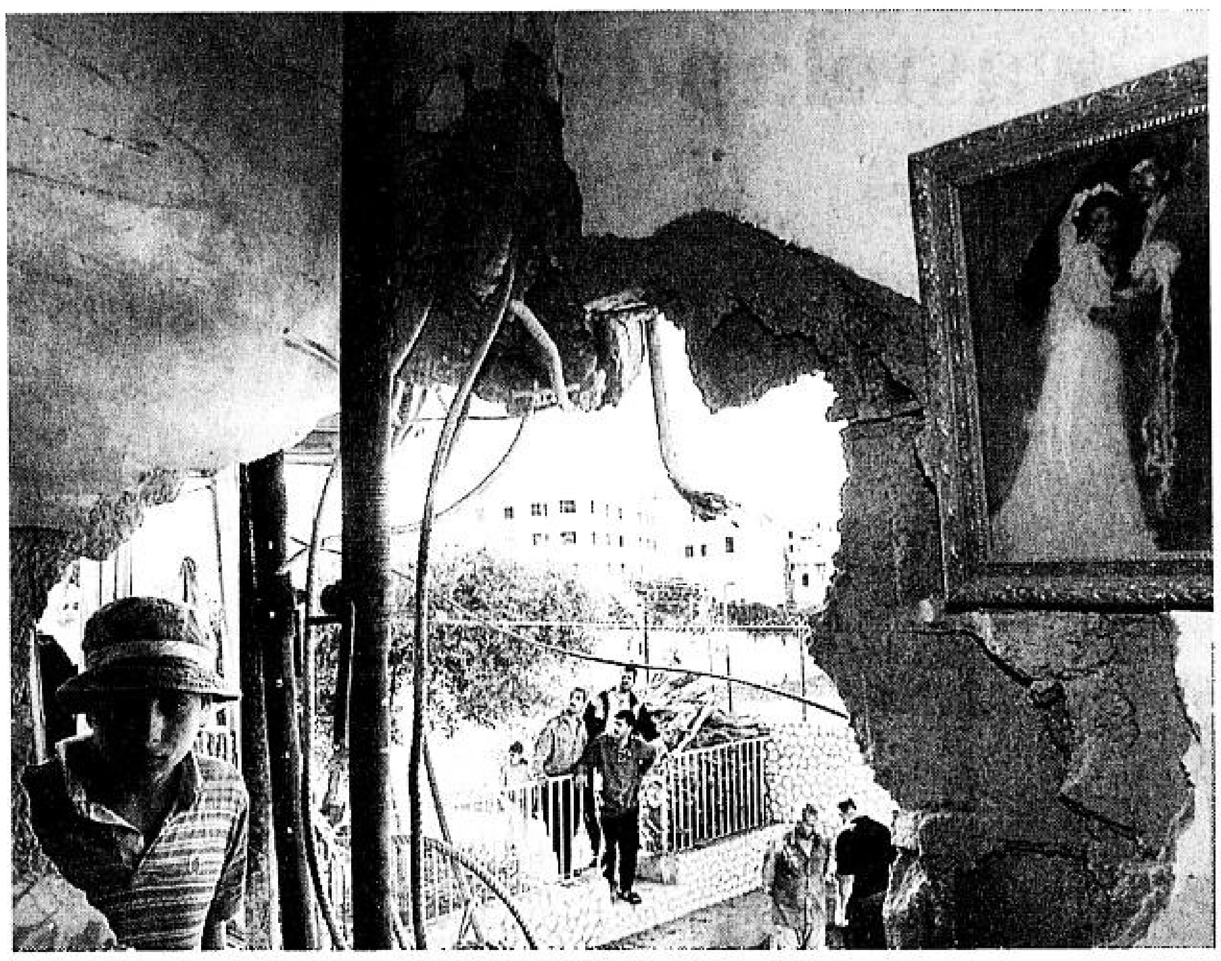
On Saturday afternoon Israel mounted its simultaneous land, sea and air attacks along the Gaza Strip.

Helicopter gunships destroyed a Palestinian military intelligence headquarters in Gaza City in the north, security sources and witnesses said.

Anti-tank missiles also struck a Palestinian police station at Rafah in the south and shelling from warships destroyed most of a Palestinian naval building at Nusseirat in the center of the territory.

Seven people were wounded, one seriously, in the triple strike, Palestinian hospital sources said.

The Israeli army confirmed the attacks, saying they were a response to Palestinian mortar attacks, and that the targets had been used as bases for Palestinian "terrorists" preparing anti-Israeli attacks. *AFP*



A PALESTINIAN inspects damage to his house after Israeli tanks shelled houses in the West Bank city of Ramallah Sept. 16. Israeli tanks and helicopters raided the Palestinian-ruled city early on Sunday, hours after the Israel government called off ceasefire talks to end almost a year of violence. REUTERS

Attacks deepen US airlines' financial crisis

CHICAGO—Continental Airlines Inc. said on Saturday that it was laying off 12,000 staffers and warned it could file for bankruptcy as it and two other top 5 US carriers slashed flight schedules in the fallout from the air attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The industry's deepening crisis led Gordon Bethune, the chief executive of Houston-based Continental, to predict 100,000 airline job losses worldwide and prompted the Bush administration to announce it will hold urgent talks with carriers about their financial woes next week.

Without financial help from the government, Continental said a late-October reorganization of the company under protection from the bankruptcy court would be "prudent."

Northwest Airlines, the No. 4 US carrier, and UAL Corp.'s United Airlines, the second-largest, said they would cut schedules by 20 percent, along with Continental, the fifth-largest airline.

Tuesday's air attacks, which left thousands entombed in the rubble of the World Trade Center's twin towers, shut down the nation's aviation industry for nearly three days and have prompted Americans to curtail travel plans sharply. The airline business, which will now also have to increase spending on security measures, was already reeling because of the economic downturn, surging labor costs and high fuel prices.

"The US airline industry is in an unprecedented financial crisis," Bethune said in a statement. "Our industry needs immediate congressional action if the nation's air transportation system is to survive."

The layoffs announced by Continental, which represent 21 percent of its staff of more than 56,000 people, are likely to be followed by job cuts elsewhere. Minneapolis-based Northwest Airlines, which has 53,000 employees, said it would review its overall staffing needs by next week and bring in long-term scheduling cuts by Oct. 1. *Reuters*

Koreas open talks after long hiatus

SEOUL—Ministers from capitalist South Korea and communist North Korea opened talks on Sunday, resuming contacts that were frozen for much of this year after a flurry of reconciliation efforts in 2000.

Six months after North Korea broke off its dealings with the South, delegates will try to revive the rapprochement between the two Koreas, still technically at war after the Korean War half a century ago ended without a formal peace treaty.

"Everything will go very well," North Korean delegation leader Kim Ryong-song told reporters as he entered the conference room in a Seoul hotel.

On Saturday, Kim, a senior cabinet counselor, chatted briefly with South Korea's delegation chief, Unification Minister Hong Soon-young. Both promised good results from the talks, which are slated to run until Tuesday.

Seoul hopes the two sides can revive agreements reached at a summit last year between South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and North Korean leader Kim Jong-il that raised hopes for peace on the divided peninsula.

North Korea has frustrated Seoul by failing to follow through on pledges made in the historic June 2000 summit declaration, including Kim Jong-il's promise to visit Seoul to reciprocate Kim Dae-jung's ice-breaking trip to Pyongyang.

South Korean Prime Minister Lee Han-dong, hosting the delegates at an evening banquet on Saturday, called a second summit "important for raising South-North ties to a higher level, easing military tensions and establishing peace."

The agenda of the talks between five ministerial-level officials from each side includes efforts to restore severed rail and road links between the Koreas and to promote reunions among families separated since the 1950-53 Korean War.

Kim Dae-jung has called on the ministers to try to issue a joint anti-terrorism declaration in the wake of the aerial attacks on New York and Washington. *Reuters*

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Nur brings case to Islamic group

COTABATO CITY—Gov. Nur Misuari of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) is out for a long stay in Saudi Arabia and other Middle Eastern countries.

He took the trip apparently to get the sympathy of the Muslim world after he threatened to abandon the 1996 peace agreement that the government signed with the Moro National Liberation Front.

"The Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) that helped broker the agreement some five years ago has the right to be informed of what has happened to that agreement," Misuari was quoted to have said Tuesday in Bangkok before leaving for the Middle East.

Misuari, who is also MNLF chair, will report to OIC foreign ministers his plan to abandon the peace accord due to the alleged "unilateral" implementation of the Aug. 14 plebiscite.

The holding of the plebiscite, amid opposition from the MNLF and the OIC, prompted Misuari to state that "there is practically no more peace agreement to talk about," according to ARMM information chief Mahendra Madjilon.

"There's a need to inform leaders of OIC-member countries on the status of the peace process because they are very much concerned about the condition of the Bangsamoro people," Madjilon quoted Misuari as saying.

He said Misuari, who is also the country's special envoy to the OIC, will have an audience with OIC Secretary General Abdelouahed Belkeziz.

Misuari's other mission includes the solicitation of assistance for Mindanao, particularly the ARMM, Madjilon said.

He said this year, ARMM received P54 million worth of aid consisting of hospital and laboratory equipment from Saudi Arabia.

"The governor is doing this because he is aware of the national government's huge budgetary deficit that makes it difficult to sustain the operation of local government units," said Madjilon. He added that the funds were insufficient to even pay for salaries.

Despite Misuari's efforts to raise revenue to bridge the government's budget shortfall, "there were alleged moves from Malacañang to oust him as MNLF chair," Madjilon said.

Speaker Jose de Venecia last week promised Misuari an ambassadorial post, which MNLF insiders said was a move to appease the regional governor.

The ARMM governor rejected the offer as nothing but another political promise from the Macapagal administration, said MNLF spokesperson Ibrahim Omar.

"We have had enough of these promises," he said. *Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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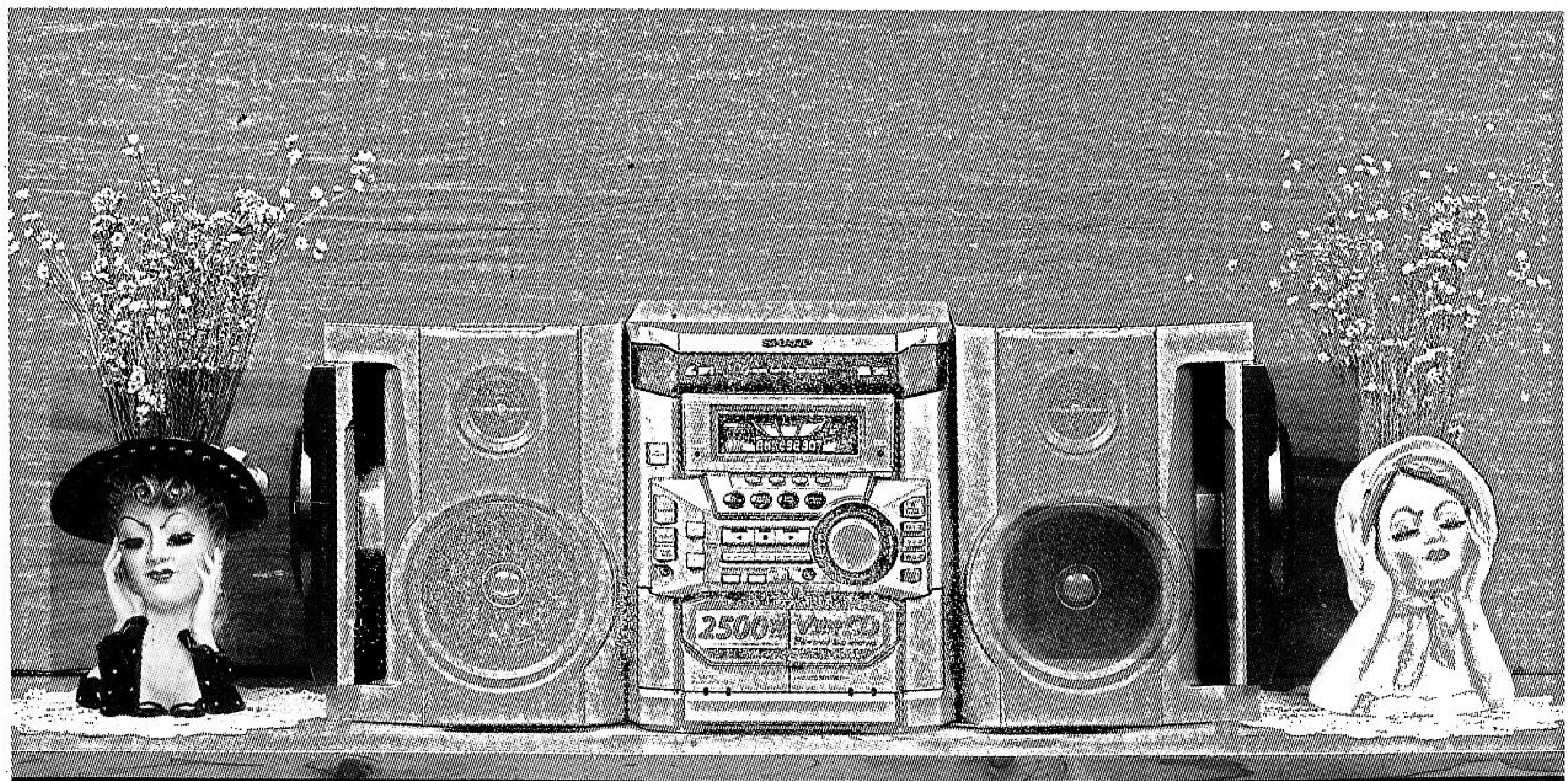
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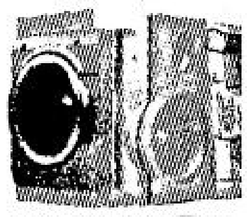
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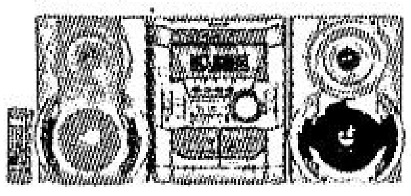
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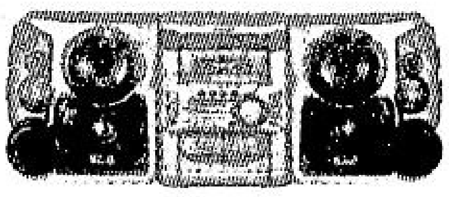
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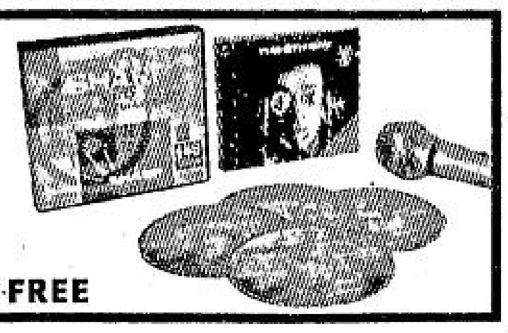
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108.	Freddie Ordoñez	Soledad Cac Caltex Service Station
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110.	Geraldine Angodung	Petroleum Distributors & Caltex Service Station
111.	Geraldine Sioson	Joselito Ladaban #3 Caltex Service Station
112.	German Mateo	Vicente Go #1 Caltex Service Station
113.	Gerry De Los Santos	John Tarnate Caltex Service Station
114.	Gerry Lorenzo Dupan	Citadel Comml. Inc Caltex Service Station
115.	Gil Dakis	Joseph Policarpio Caltex Service Station
116.	Gloria E. Barranta	Winefredo Lindog Caltex Service Station
117.	Gloria Figues	Jose Yap Caltex Service Station
118.	Gracia Penaridondo	Lazara Quijano Caltex Service Station
119.	Guillermo Cabarrubias	Benjamin Lim Caltex Service Station
120.	Haydee Reyes	Ivy Feliciano Caltex Service Station
121.	Henorato Sto. Tomas	Marieta Evangelista Caltex Service Station
122.	Henry C. Ceroni	Catherine Esguerra Caltex Service Station
123.	Hersamio Pojas	Midway Caltex Caltex Service Station
124.	Hubert Martinez	Franklin Cas Caltex Service Station
125.	Ian Gutierrez	Clarito Enriquez Caltex Service Station
126.	Isaac P. de Leon	Edmund Uy Caltex Service Station
127.	Jaime K. Sola Jr.	Nestor Esguerra Caltex Service Station
128.	Jaime Lualhati	Miriam Evel Salazar Caltex Service Station
129.	James Tismo	First Coastal Fuel Corp. Caltex Service Station
130.	Jamrod Ordovilla	Bernabe Liang Caltex Service Station
131.	Janet S.Te	Bms - Goldmine Caltex Service Station
132.	Janeth B. Tarzona	Jerome Lapuz Caltex Service Station
133.	Jasmine Bartolome	Gloria Yulo Caltex Service Station
134.	Jeandra Ferre	Goldtrek Trading 1 Caltex Service Station
135.	Jefferson Chua	Norman Pamintuan Caltex Service Station
136.	Jennelyn Borromeo	Antonio T. Cruz Caltex Service Station
137.	Jennifer De Mesa	Merceditas Garcia Caltex Service Station
138.	Jenny Magalong	Angel De Castro Caltex Service Station
139.	Jeopry C. Ferrer	Elsie Bermudez Caltex Service Station
140.	Jerome Dato	Emma Mercado Caltex Service Station
141.	Jerry Gaquing	Olympia Bernabe #2 Caltex Service Station
142.	Jerry Magno	Jorge Relucio Caltex Service Station
143.	Jessie L. Montajo	Greenhills Car Care Center, Inc. Caltex Service Station
144.	Jesus Macalino	Jorge Joseph Roque Caltex Service Station
145.	Jesus S. Pasiquit	Tomas Ong Caltex Service Station
146.	Jim Dizon	Cecile Nepomuceno Caltex Service Station
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148.	Jingle S. Subida	Jose Gaspar Caltex Service Station
149.	Jo-Ann Maralita	Ferdinand Llwag Caltex Service Station
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151.	Joeffrey Pamaybay	Citadel Comm. Inc. Caltex Service Station
152.	Joel Bachiller	Jose Gurat Caltex Service Station
153.	Joel C. Esquillo	Citadel Comm. Inc. Caltex Service Station
154.	Joel Montana	Citadel Commercial, Inc. Caltex Service Station
155.	Joel Sabado	Ricardo Briones Caltex Service Station
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197.	Leroy De Leon	Norman Pamintuan Caltex Service Station
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200.	Ligaya Garcia	Ligaya Belmonte #2 Caltex Service Station
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202.	Liza Tan	Gregoria Mendoza Caltex Service Station
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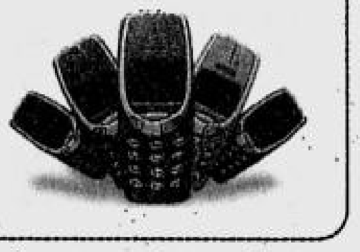

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210. Ma. Aloja Panopio	Bonifacio Del Rosario Caltex Service Station
211. Ma. Angela Pinaroc	Virgilio Mallari Caltex Service Station
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215. Ma. Lilibeth Kawasaki	Emelita Liwanag # 2 Caltex Service Station
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223. Manny Del Mundo	Juan Go Caltex Service Station
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225. Manolo Reano	Franklin Cas Caltex Service Station
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228. Maria Joy Quintana	Rosalyn Paguyo Caltex Service Station
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231. Marianito Leyco	Benita Lui #1 Caltex Service Station
232. Mariano Lagera	Rosemarie Rosal #1 Caltex Service Station
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What Drives You CALTEX

ARMM execs demand bigger budget

COTABATO CITY—Officials in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) have organized a lobby group that would try to convince Congress to raise its 2002 budget by 100 percent.

Regional Legislative Assembly (RLA) Speaker Alvarez Isnaji, who assumed the post of ARMM Gov. Nur Misuari in an acting capacity, said RLA members and department heads were one in proposing that next year's budget should be P9.5 billion instead of the existing allocation of only P4.6 billion.

Misuari, who left for the Middle East as a special envoy to the 56-member nations of the Organization of Islamic Conference, said he supported the group's proposal, which he considered "long overdue."

The Alvarez-led group is set to defend on Sept. 19 their new budget before the House Subcommittee on Appropriations chaired by Rep. Junie Cua.

Regional secretaries of various departments, bureau chiefs and office heads complained that with the entry of Basilan and Marawi City into the four-province ARMM as a result of the Aug. 14 plebiscite, there is a need for Congress to increase the region's budget.

Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi are the other ARMM provinces.

Accounting records from the autonomous government showed that out of the P4.6 billion annual budget, personal services and salaries of employees got the lion's share.

Only P50 million was allocated for infrastructure projects, with the amount earmarked for the construction of a 162-kilometer Circumferential Road in Sulu.

"Because of this limited budget, the people have been complaining that their elected leaders have no visible projects to show in the ARMM. Others suspect that the money was pocketed by officials because they have not seen any construction activity," said Wilson Anni, ARMM acting chief of staff. *Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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DATE	TIME	COURSE	DISCOUNTED FEE
SEPT. 18	9-5:30	SETTING UP A TRAVEL AGENCY	770.00
SEPT. 18-21	9-5:30	FIBERGLASS PRODUCTS MANUFACTURING	2,310.00
SEPT. 19-20	9-5:30	CORSAGE AND BOUQUET MAKING	1,540.00
SEPT. 19-20	9-5:30	DESIGN AND OPERATION OF A WATER REFILLING STATION BUSINESS (with field trip)	1,386.00
SEPT. 20-21	9-5:30	JEWELRY APPRAISAL AND PAWNSHOP OPERATION	1,540.00
SEPT. 20-21	9-5:30	SPORTS MASSAGE (NEW)	1,540.00
SEPT. 21-22	9-5:30	MEAT SHOP MANAGEMENT AND MEAT CUTTING (with field trip)	1,386.00
SEPT. 22-23	9-5:30	DECORATIVE CANDLE MAKING (in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)	1,540.00
SEPT. 22-23	9-5:30	DOLLAR TRADING/FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE	1,155.00
SEPT. 22-23	9-5:30	AROMATHERAPY	1,540.00
SEPT. 22-24		OPERATING A LAUNDRY SHOP BUSINESS	1,732.50
22-23	9-5:30	(SMALL-SCALE) (with field trip)	
24	9-12:00		
SEPT. 24	9-5:30	FRANCHISING A BUSINESS	770.00
SEPT. 24-25	9-5:30	HAIR TRIMMING, PERMING, DYEING AND MAKE-UP TECHNIQUES	1,540.00
SEPT. 24-27	9-5:30	SILKSCREEN PRINTING	2,310.00
SEPT. 25-28	9-4:00	OPERATING A RETAIL STORE BUSINESS (with field trip)	2,310.00
SEPT. 26-27	9-5:30	CATERING BUSINESS OPERATION	1,155.00
SEPT. 27-28	9-5:30	ADVANCED AND LATEST TRENDS IN FLORAL DESIGN (Flower Arrangement) Pre-requisite: basic knowledge of flower arrangement	1,925.00
SEPT. 27-28	9-5:30	SETTING UP A HARDWARE AND CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY STORE	1,155.00
SEPT. 29-30	9-5:30	JEWELRY APPRAISAL AND PAWNSHOP OPERATION	1,540.00
SEPT. 29-30	9-5:30	LAUNDRY SOAP AND DETERGENTS (in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)	1,540.00
SEPT. 29-30	9-5:30	AROMA CANDLE MAKING (in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)	1,540.00
SEPT. 29- OCT. 1	9-5:30	FRESH FLOWER ARRANGEMENT AND FLOWER SHOP OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT (with field trip)	2,310.00
OCT. 1-2	9-5:30	RESIN BONDED ARTWARES	2,310.00
OCT. 1-3		COCONUT MINI-OIL MILLING AND REFINING	1,732.50
OCT. 1-2	1-5:30	(in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)	
OCT. 3	9-4:00	(with field trip)	

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AGRI / AQUA COURSES

DATE	TIME	COURSE	DISCOUNTED FEE
SEPT. 19-21	9-4:00	LAYER PRODUCTION (Table Egg) (with field trip)	1,732.50
SEPT. 24	9-5:30	QUAIL RAISING	770.00
SEPT. 25-27	9-4:00	ANIMAL FEED FORMULATION AND PRODUCTION (with field trip)	1,732.50
SEPT. 26-27	9-5:30	INTENSIVE CULTURE OF TILAPIA IN TANKS (with field trip)	1,386.00
SEPT. 28- OCT. 2	9-4:00	SWINE PRODUCTION (with field trip)	2,079.00
OCT. 1-3	9-4:00	MANGO PRODUCTION (with Improved Flower Induction) AND POST-HARVEST HANDLING AND STORAGE TECHNOLOGY (with field trip)	1,732.50

FOOD COURSES

DATE	TIME	COURSE	DISCOUNTED FEE
SEPT. 19-21	9-5:30	AFFORDABLE BAKERY PRODUCTS ("*Pang-masa*") (Pre-requisite: basic knowledge in baking) (with field trip)	1,925.00
SEPT. 22-24		HOW TO BE A CANTEEN CONCESSIONAIRE	1,771.00
22-23	9-5:30	(with field trip)	
24	9-12:00		
SEPT. 22-25	9-5:30	HOME BAKESHOP	2,310.00
SEPT. 24	9-5:30	FLAVORED AND FORTIFIED JUICE	770.00
SEPT. 25-26	9-5:30	BASIC MEAT PROCESSING	1,540.00
SEPT. 27-28	9-5:30	ADVANCED MEAT PROCESSING	1,540.00
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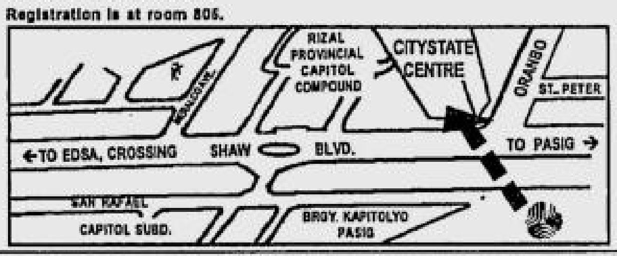

Agency reports growing poverty in W. Visayas

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Poverty incidence in Western Visayas registered a six-year high last year, data from the National Statistical Coordinating Board (NSCB) showed.

The NSCB regional office reported that the number of families living below the poverty line increased from 39.9 percent in 1997 to 43 percent last year, the same level recorded in 1994.

The NSCB computes the estimates of poverty statistics every three years based on results of the Family and Expenditure Survey conducted by the National Statistics Office.

Families whose annual per capita income fell below the poverty threshold reached 526,072 in the region from 498,405 in 1997. This meant that about 3.1 million people were living below poverty line out of the 6.2 million people in the region last year.

The poverty threshold is the amount a person needs to meet basic food and non-food requirements. It was pegged at P10,560 in 1997 and P12,646 last year.

The region's poverty incidence is sixth among 15 regions but it was highest in the Visayas. The region is the fourth largest contributor to the nation's gross domestic product (GDP).

Poverty was worse in the rural areas, where 53.9 percent of families lived below the poverty line. The incidence of poverty in the urban area was only 26.5 percent.

The increase in poverty incidence in the region by 3.5 percent from 1997 to 2000 followed the consistent decrease of the figure from 1985 until 1997, the report showed.

Government planners attribute the worsening poverty to the lingering effects of the 1997 financial crisis that severely affected Asian economies, the prolonged drought caused by the El Niño, rising unemployment, and low level of investments in the region.

Guia Sanico, NSCB statistical coordinator III, said that in 1998 alone, 18.4 percent of families in the region lost their jobs due to the financial crisis while 19.3 percent experienced reduced wages.

About 95.3 percent suffered from higher prices of food and other commodities.

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: The Western sections of Northern and Central Luzon and Visayas will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 24°
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 22° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 22°
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 25°
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Hi 30° Lo 22°
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 25°
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 23°
Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Roxas	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy	Hi 34° Lo 25°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Davao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/09/17/01

ROUNDUP

Lingayen gulf petition

LINGAYEN, Pangasinan—Claiming that commercial fishing is depleting Lingayen Gulf's fish stock to an "irreparable level," mayors in Pangasinan and La Union want the entire gulf declared as a municipal fishing ground. In a petition sent to Agriculture Secretary Leonardo Montemayor, the mayors said declaring the gulf closed to commercial fishing would enable gulf to recover.

Yolanda Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Dads hit DOTC head

ANGELES CITY—Citing "inimical acts to the best interest of Angeles City," councilors here have asked the Commission on Appointments to reject the appointment of Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez. During a session on Tuesday, city officials said Alvarez supports an airport agreement that would bring negative effects to the Clark International Airport.

Jun Malig, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Fireman hurt in Vizcaya

SOLANO, Nueva Vizcaya—A firefighter was hurt while putting out a fire that gutted this town's commercial district on Friday night. Omar Saturno of the Bagabag fire station suffered a severe cut in the left leg when he tried to break into a store that caught fire. He was taken to the Veterans Regional Hospital. Fire struck a strip of commercial establishments on General Luna Street here around 10 p.m., destroying several stores.

Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

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OBJECTIVES OF GKK

1) Encourage institutions/companies to implement own safety, health and environment programs and in the process achieve zero accident in the workplace; and
2) Recognize outstanding individuals who have implemented successful safety and health programs or ideas.

WHO MAY JOIN?

1) Companies belonging to large and medium scale enterprises (above 100 workers with more than P15 million in assets) and small scale enterprises (less than 100 workers with assets not exceeding P15 million) in the following industry categories may join in:
   - Manufacturing*
   - Construction
   - Mining and Quarrying
   - Electricity, Gas and Water
   - Transportation, Storage and Communication
   - Community, Social and Personal Services
   - Wholesale and Retail Trade
   - Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
   - Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services

** For manufacturing, there are 12 sub-classifications:*
- Food and Beverage
- Basic Metal
- Textile, Wearing Apparel and Leather
- Fabricated Metal
- Cars and Trucks Manufacturing
- Wood and Wood Products
- Rubber Plastic
- Paper and Paper Products
- Petroleum and Petroleum Products
- Chemicals
- Non-metallic Mineral and Mineral Product
- Electronic and Electrical Appliances

2) **Individual Workers/Safety and Health Officer** with outstanding OSH contributions or ideas leading to cost savings or increase productivity.

CRITERIA

A) Companies who wish to join the GKK must be complying with labor standards and requirements including the Occupational Safety and Health Standards and other related government regulations.

Company best OSH Program must have/or address:
- Control of Industrial Hazards
- OSH Capability Building for Workers and supervisors
- Accident Statistics and Documentation
- Health Promotion
- Practice of Ergonomics
- Environmental Protection and Community Relations
- Management of Safety and Health

B) Nominees for the individual category must have an outstanding contribution to the occupational safety and health and/or to the safety and health program of their respective companies.

This contribution could translate to any or all of the following areas:
1. Increased productivity in the workplace.
2. Innovative ideas which resulted in remarkable advancement of safety and health in the workplace.

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Entries should be submitted on or before 5 October 2001.

Validation of pre-screened entries: October 2001.

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Top NPA leader in Mindanao freed

DAVAO CITY—Jailed New People's Army leader Leonardo Pitao alias "Commander Parago" was freed on Friday.

Pitao was released on orders of Judge Jose Mendoza, presiding judge of the Regional Trial Court Branch 219 in Quezon City.

Judge Mendoza granted a joint motion for release through cognizance filed by the rebel leader through his legal counsel.

Pitao, who led the Medardo Arce Command based in Southern Mindanao, stepped out of his detention cell inside Camp Bonifacio, where he was being held by the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp), around 3:15 in the afternoon.

Joel Virador of Bayan Muna said Pitao's freedom is considered part of the confidence-building measures taken by the government to show its sincerity in the ongoing peace negotiations with the underground communist movement.

Pitao is now under the custody of Bishop Maximo Millamena of the Philippine Independent Church.

His movement was not restricted and he may travel anywhere.

Parago led the abduction of Brig. Gen. Victor Obillo and Capt. Eduardo Montealto on Feb. 17, 1999. Intelligence and Army operatives captured him in his home in Bago Gallera, Talomo District here on Nov. 2, 1999.

Virador said that while Pitao is out of jail, he is expected to help in the peace process.

He said the rebel leader would also actively take part in the campaign for the implementation of an earlier agreement between the government and rebel leaders calling for respect of human rights.

The pact, called Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL), was signed by deposed President Joseph Estrada but was not implemented.

Parago is also expected to help work for the release of 200 political prisoners still languishing in various jails nationwide.

Aside from ordering the release of Pitao, Mendoza also suspended the hearing of at least 17 criminal cases filed against the guerrilla leader pending the result of a new investigation by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

Pitao earlier asked the court that the charges of heinous crimes filed against him that were filed in various courts in Southern Mindanao be lumped into a single case of rebellion.

Ayan Mellejor, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Army station attacked

LEGAZPI CITY—A group of unidentified armed men believed to be members of the New People's Army raided an Army detachment in Castilla, Sorsogon on Friday, the military said.

Military spokesperson Maj. Jose Broso said Saturday that the armed men fired successive rounds of grenade launchers and automatic gunfire at the detachment.

The soldiers were forced to retaliate, he said.

The firefight lasted for about 15 minutes.

The attackers withdrew toward the vicinity of Barangay Oras, Castilla town. No casualty on the government side was reported. *Rey Nasol, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

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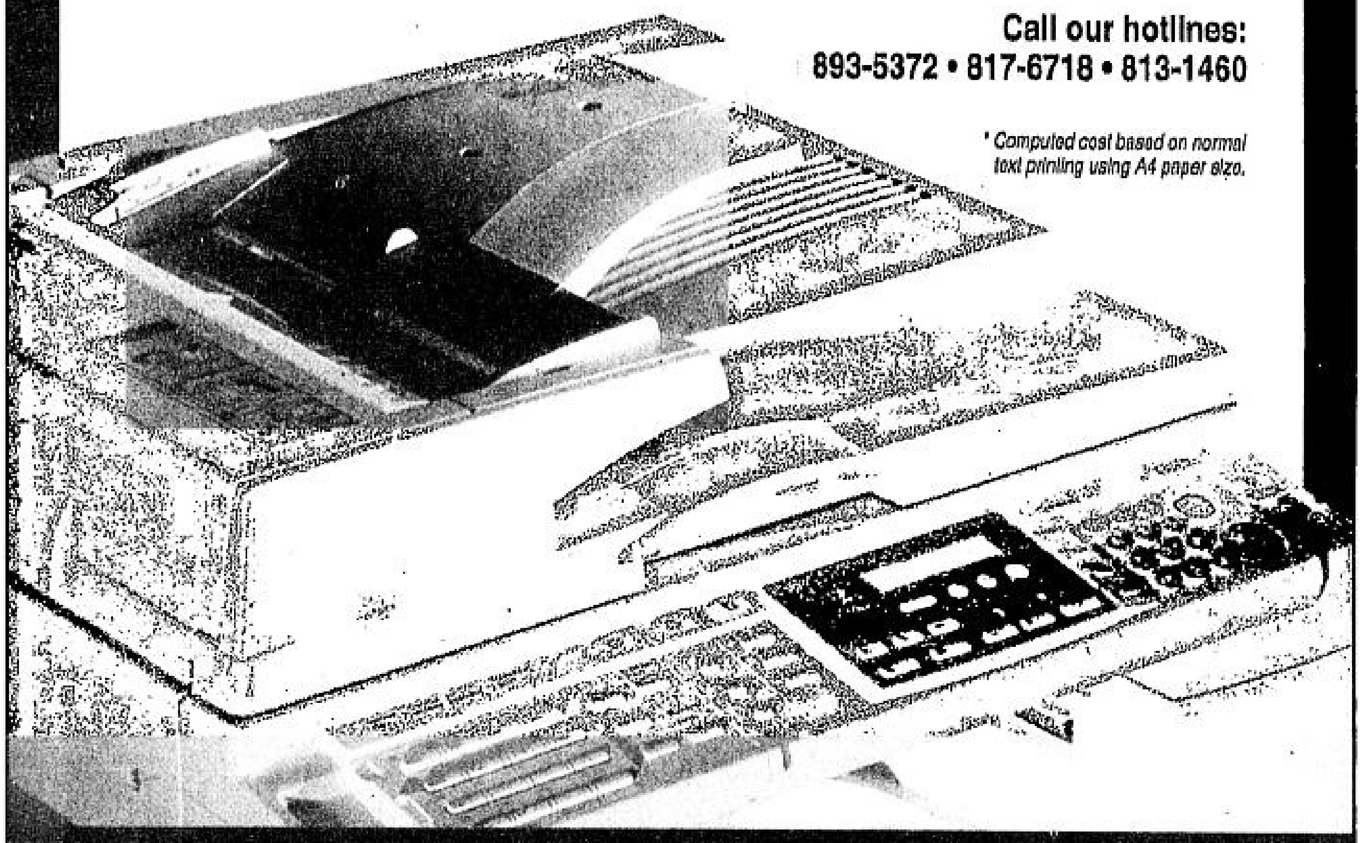

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FBI getting 'clear' picture of attacks

(From page A1)

But as the investigation shifted into higher gear, the denials began. In Lebanon, the family of 25-year-old Ziad Samir Jarrah, a man named as one of the hijackers, described him as a fun-loving student who had a girlfriend and drank alcohol—not someone who would be inspired to terrorism by Islamic fundamentalism.

"He didn't pray or fast. He never cared about politics or organization. All he cared about was having fun and drinking beer," said Ziad's uncle, Nazem Jarrah. "If he was actually on the plane, then he is one of the passengers, not a hijacker."

"We cannot imagine that this boy would ever carry out such an act," added the uncle, interviewed in the Jarrah family home in the village of Al-Marj, 50 kilometers east of Beirut.

Back in the United States, with one man in custody in New York, US justice authorities issued a second arrest warrant for a material witness, allowing them to hold someone considered crucial to the investigation without charging him with any crime.

The Justice Department said the FBI was questioning 25 people arrested for immigration violations. The agency is looking for more than 100 people who may have information about the attacks. A few of those people have been located and interviewed, officials said.

The passport of a suspected hijacker was discovered near the ruins of the World Trade Center, authorities said, as exhausted rescue workers clawed through the wreckage, searching unsuccessfully for signs of life.

FBI Assistant Director Barry Mawn did not disclose the name on the passport or other details, but the discovery prompted an intensive search Saturday for more evidence from the towers.

Officials speaking on condition of anonymity said the man arrested Friday was the same person detained Thursday at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport with a fake pilot's license.

US investigators are expected to issue additional warrants. "We are at a point where there will be additional and more frequent warrants," said Justice Department spokesperson Mindy Tucker.

None of the 25 held on immigration violations has been formally charged, either on immigration counts or with crimes related to the four hijackings, Tucker said. Some but not all of the detainees who have been interviewed are cooperating with the FBI.

The immigration problems could range from expired visas to being employed without a work visa. The detainees can be held for an indefinite amount of time, and there is no deadline for charging or releasing them.

Prosecutors sometimes hold foreign nationals on immigration violations as a way to buy time to investigate other charges.

NY fire dep't cites 3 officials

NEW YORK's Fire Department mourned three top officials at funerals Saturday, including a beloved chaplain who had comforted colleagues for decades.

The Rev. Mychal Judge—known to all as Father Mike—lived in a Franciscan friary opposite a Manhattan firehouse, and responded with that unit after the first reports of the crash came in.

Judge died while giving last rites to a firefighter mortally wounded by a falling body. When the priest removed his fire helmet to pray, he was struck in the head by debris and killed.

"Mychal Judge was always my friend, and now he's also my hero," said the Rev. Michael Duffy, who delivered the homily at Judge's funeral Mass.

William Feehan, the department's first deputy commissioner, and Chief of Department Peter Ganci also were mourned at separate services.

About 300 firefighters were lost in the carnage, by far the worst tragedy since the city's first engine companies were formed in 1865.

With some of the department's top officials killed in the attacks, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said the city's fire department would announce 160 promotions Sunday to replace fallen officers. *AP*

Tucker declined to say whether any of the 25 are suspected of being accomplices or whether they have significant information about the plot. "It's not clear in all cases how important their information is," said Tucker.

Condolences

North of Beirut, US Ambassador to Lebanon Vincent Battle said Sunday that the family of the Lebanese suspect had conveyed its condolences to the American people.

"The family of the suspect called the embassy and expressed their condolences," he told journalists at a Mass for victims of the attacks in Bkerke.

The FBI believes Jarrah helped hijack and pilot United Airlines Flight 93, the Boeing 757 that left Newark, New Jersey, for San Francisco and went down in Stony Creek Township, Pennsylvania.

Earlier, an official Lebanese statement issued in Beirut quoted a security source as saying Ziad had been in Hamburg, Germany, for the last four years studying flight engineering.

"Lebanon, its government and people have no link whatsoever with the developments in the United States," said a separate Lebanese government statement.

It pointed out that Ziad had been living outside the country and that Lebanon had lost several people in the World Trade Center collapse and passengers on the planes.

Nazem Jarrah said Ziad, as a typical student, studied flight engineering in Germany and then the United States.

Holding back tears, Ziad's father Samir said his son went to the United States to continue his studies at his urging.

Samir last saw his son when he visited for 20 days in February, when the father had an open-heart surgery.

Another uncle, Jamal Jarrah, said his nephew drinks and has a girlfriend, an ethnic Turk, in Germany.

In Germany Saturday, investigators said police seized evidence late Friday when they searched the apartment of Ziad Jarrah's girlfriend in the western industrial city of Bochum.

The "airplane-related documents" were found in a suitcase, German Federal Prosecutor Kay Nehm said. He did not give details, and it was unclear which of the three men German officials have linked to the US attacks it belonged to.

Escaping a brother

Until Saturday, German authorities had identified only two of the suspects—Mohammed Atta, 33, who US authorities say was aboard the first plane that slammed into the World Trade Center, and Marwan Al-Shehhi, 22, who was on the second plane that hit the center. Both were born in the United Arab Emirates, according to German investigators.

In the United Arab Emirates, a relative of Marwan Al-Shehhi told the Associated·Press he was the son of a Muslim cleric who died two years ago.

The relative, who spoke on condition of anonymity in Al-Shehhi's hometown of Ras al-Khaimah, said Al-Shehhi was dominated by his older half brother, who ordered him to go to Germany in 1999 to study aviation.

While in Germany, he told his family that he wasn't coming back to the Emirates, apparently to escape his elder brother. He rarely called home. His mother pleaded with him to return, and she once said that she felt someone was listening to their calls and threatening him to keep him from returning.

The relative described Al-Shehhi as extremely religious and withdrawn, saying he rarely socialized with his peers.

Intense activity

Among the 25 detained by the FBI are two men seized at an Amtrak train station in Fort Worth, Texas. They were interviewed by FBI agents, taken into custody and flown to New York.

The two boarded a flight Tuesday morning in Newark, New Jersey, as the four hijackings were under way, said a law enforcement source, speaking on condition of anonymity. The plane was grounded in St. Louis as the FAA halted all air traffic; the men then boarded an Amtrak train bound for Texas.

They were taken off during a routine drug search Wednesday night. Although no drugs were found, the men had box-cutting knives, authorities said, and also carried about $5,000 in cash. The hijackers had used knives and box cutters to take control of the planes.

The official would not comment on whether the two from Texas were cooperating with authorities. The FBI searched a New Jersey apartment believed to have been the home of one or both of the men.

New Jersey is one of several states described as areas where there is "intense activity" in the investigation, one official said. The other states are Texas, Florida, New York and Massachusetts, especially the Boston area.

Officials declined to say where the 25 were arrested or where they are being detained.

Wanted

Among others who have been questioned or sought:

- Zacarias Moussaoui, who trained briefly at a Minnesota flight school and was arrested Aug. 17 on an immigration violation. ABC television news reported that Moussaoui aroused suspicions of a flight instructor because he wanted flight simulator instructions only on how to fly a 747 in horizontal mode—not learn takeoffs and landings.
- Amer Kamfar, a flight engineer who listed a Saudi Airlines post office box as his address in FAA records, is being sought by the FBI. Kamfar was listed at various times as living at the same address in Vero Beach, Florida, as Abdul Alomari, one of the suspected hijackers aboard American Airlines Flight 11, which struck the World Trade Center's north tower.
- Agents have also interviewed three men in New Jersey carrying a large amount of cash and a one-way plane ticket to Syria, police said. The three—Ahmad Kilfat, 45, Mohammad Mahmoud Al Raqqad, 37, and Nicholas Makrakis, 27—were in a red car that fit a description put out by federal authorities of a car that may have a connection to the terrorist attacks, according to a police official who requested anonymity. Authorities said Saturday that Makrakis may have been using a Greek passport stolen in July.

"We are making the kinds of contacts and developing the information that allows us to describe this as proceeding with reasonable success," said Ashcroft, who met with President George W. Bush and administration officials at the presidential retreat Camp David in Maryland.

Investigators have sent the flight data recorder and voice recorder from the plane that crashed in Pennsylvania to the manufacturer for analysis. The cockpit voice recorder of the jet that hit the Pentagon was badly damaged and may not provide much information, officials said. ***Reports from AP, AFP***

Attacks were acts of war

(From page A1)

tries aiding them politically and financially.

In the memorial services, it's the people of the world—more than governments and their leaders—who are showing that they are recoiling from this new form of warfare in which innocent people are being used to attack population centers.

Reduced to its fundamentals, the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon are not strikes against the symbols of US military and economic power. They are acts of war on people by a network of international criminals who either have fanatical political objectives or strong religious fundamentalist causes.

War on people

To illustrate the point that this is more of a war on people rather than on a powerful country, the dead at the Pentagon and the World Trade Center represent different nationalities.

Two Filipinos have been confirmed dead in the two aircraft that crashed into the World Trade Center. Many Filipinos are among those missing along with Americans and other nationalities in the center's twin towers.

All the peoples of the world today are at risk from organized terrorism. When one boards an aircraft for international flights, regardless of whether he is a Filipino or not, he is at risk from hijacking as a launching platform for attacks on population centers.

Any international flight is a veritable miniature global village. Its manifest catalogues the names of passengers from different countries, cultures and races. All are fair game to terrorist hijacking.

The conventional war that we know is appalling and abhorrent. But conventional warfare pits countries against countries, governments against governments, armies against armies, and soldiers against soldiers.

In all wars of history, civilians are slaughtered, but most of the time the targets are the military installations and military personnel. This time, the civilians are the main targets. They are used as hostages to ram buildings and to slaughter people. This fact is known by now to the peoples of the world, and it explains why they are mourning the dead in America, an expression of sorrow as well as of support for actions to end terrorism.

Some Palestinians and some Arabs in Lebanon rejoiced and danced in the streets over the terrorist attacks, not necessarily, according to them, to endorse terrorism. Their defenders say they rejoiced because the United States had the attacks coming. They cite the conflicts engendered by American military and political interventions in the Middle East.

This explanation begs the question. The issue is whether terrorist attacks on people and population centers can right the alleged wrongs committed on the downtrodden in the Middle East.

Geopolitics

Related to this is the question of whether terrorist strikes can force the United States to change its geopolitical policies concerning that region.

The Middle East is the arena of wars dating back to the Crusades of the 13th and 14th centuries or even to the fall of Constantinople to the Ottoman Turks in 1453. History cannot be rewritten by terrorism.

Religious fanatics seeking to drive out Christians and Jews from Islamic land are trying to move back the clock using the iron hand of terror. Filipino ideologues are gloating over the tragedy in the United States, saying it has received its comeuppance for its imperialism and capitalism, etc.

But terrorist attacks hurt people more than governments. The slaughter of people is a means to put pressure on governments to reverse their foreign policies that are perceived to have done incalculable harm to victims.

The problem is that in the aftermath of the attacks on the US mainland, the United States has gained more support all over the world for its war against terrorism than at any other crises of Western civilization, including World War I, World War II and the Cold War.

Unexpected consequence

This consequence is ironically the one the terrorists and their coddlers did not expect or did not want to happen.

The attacks have galvanized international support for the American government in strengthening its hands in fighting terrorism.

The attacks have solidified the American people behind their government. These have brought the defenseless and vulnerable peoples all over the world—all of whom are fair game to terrorism—together in an outpouring of concern over this new form of warfare that does not distinguish between combatants and non-combatants.

The United States has many enemies and is not the most loved nation on earth, but terrorism has blurred the resentments against it. This universal solidarity of people against terrorism has nothing to do with ideological or religious beliefs.

Terrorism knows no political or cultural divide. If by chance any member of Sanlakas or the Abu Sayyaf is caught in a hijack, the terrorists are not going to ask him whether he is a Sanlakas or an Abu Sayyaf member or anti-American.

They will ram the plane at targets, killing all passengers and slaughtering hapless civilians in population centers. This is basically what happened in New York and Washington, D.C. Next time, it could happen anywhere. No one, including the ideologues, is safe.

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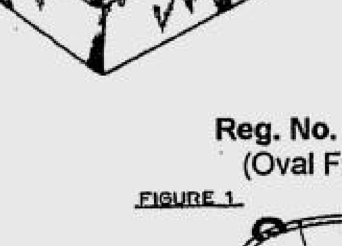

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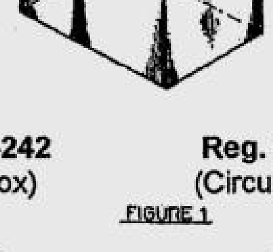

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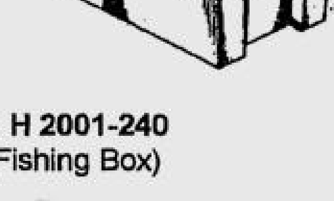

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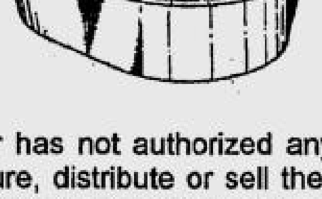

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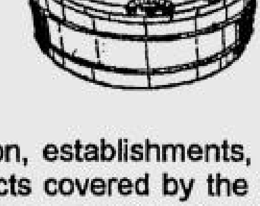

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CHEF Abelardo Quiambao of the El Cielito Inn, checks the quality of vegetables served for about 5,000 guests. Quiambao was erroneously identified as Chef Pio de Guzman in Sunday's photo that appeared in the Across the Nation. TOOTS SOBERANO

5,000 finish off largest salad

(From page A1)

Nicolas Tabora, chief of the Baguio Tourism Council, said the event's organizers, the members of the Baguio Association of Hotels and Inns (Bahai), recorded 4,861 people who were fed with 225 grams of salad each when the event officially closed at 3 p.m.

But the number of people who were served could surpass the 5,000 mark as many were seen lining outside the venue after 3 p.m., with about 40 kg of the salad remaining.

Bahai officials set aside 3,000 pieces of styrofoam bowls, but all were used by 1 p.m. Organizers used paper plates instead to serve the remaining paying guests.

The 3,000 tickets worth P20 each were sold out and organizers had to photocopy tickets to accommodate more guests.

Jeannie Chan, Bahai president, said the activity would be held again next year. "But it will not be as big as this . . . just a salad festival celebration," she said.

She, however, said her group was not planning to invite representatives of the Guinness Book of World Records to document next year's event.

The Guinness' record for the biggest salad was a Caesar's prepared by chef Scott Blackberry in Salt Lake City, Utah, on Sept. 14 last year. It fed 1,000 people.

"What is important is we know we have succeeded, and we beat the Utah record though not officially," Chan said. She added that it would take at least P100,000 to send in a Guinness representative to the country to document the event.

Baguio pride

"We in Baguio can pride ourselves in holding the record with documents to show," she said, referring to the pre-weighing and authentication ceremony held on Sept. 14.

The vegetables and salad containers were measured, weighed and certified by the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Department of Trade and Industry.

On Sunday, Benguet vegetables—430 kilos of lettuce heads, 90 kg of red and green bell peppers, 180 kg of carrots, 150 kg tomatoes and 150 kg cucumbers—were mixed in two dishpans made of galvanized iron and wrapped with aluminum foil.

The foot-high pans measured 5 feet by 12 feet each.

Visitors and residents who sampled the salad had different stories to tell.

A couple from Metro Manila, who asked to be identified only as the Lagman couple, said they were proud to be part of the event.

"We are very proud that we were able to come and see the salad. It's something Filipinos should be proud of . . . it's the first time such kind of activity was done in the country," said Mrs. Lagman, owner of a travel agency in Metro Manila.

The Macaranas family of Ilocos Norte, however, said they came only to be disappointed.

"We didn't know the setting would be like this . . . we were expecting a big bowl of salad where salad mixers needed to climb a ladder *para mag-mix, mas maganda sana* (It would have been better)," said 19-year-old Analyn Macaranas.

Complaints of "underweight" serving, however, started to crop up in the early afternoon. Some complained that they were not served the 225-gram serving given to earlier guests.

"They served me with only a few pieces of bell pepper, carrots and cucumbers, no tomato and very little dressing and cheese," one tourist said.

Others complained about the lack of choices of dressing. "*Sana may variety* 'yung dressing *para may* choice *yung mga tao, sana may* Italian and other kinds of dressing," said Jennifer Santos, 20.

The event was held as part of the celebration of Baguio's 92nd Charter anniversary. ***With a report from Robert Abaño, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Afghanistan . . .

(From page A1)

war in the event of a US attack.

"The outstanding ulama of Afghanistan should come to Kabul to take a Shariah (Muslim court) decision about a possible US attack on the sacred and Islamic land of Afghanistan," Omar was quoted as saying in a statement.

"The proud nation of Afghanistan will then defend the Islamic country in the light of their Shariah *fatwa*."

Bin Laden said he did not have the means to organize terrorist attacks because of restrictions placed on his contacts with the outside world by Omar. The Taliban, the fundamentalist Islamic militia which controls most of Afghanistan, has harbored the infamous terrorist since 1996.

"I'm living in Afghanistan. I'm a follower of Amir Ul-Momineen (Omar) who does not allow me to participate in such activities," said the statement, which was written in Bin Laden's native language, Arabic.

'Only alternative'

Afghanistan's Culture and Information Minister Qudratullah Jamal said jihad would be automatic if the United States attacked his country in retaliation against last week's devastating terrorist strikes.

"It is very clear—if they attack the only alternative for us will be jihad," Jamal said.

"The Islamic Emirate was founded on the *fatwa* of ulama and now again ulama will gather to make a decision," he added.

The statements came a day after US President George W. Bush declared that the United States was at war with the "barbarians" responsible for the terror strikes and called Bin Laden a "prime suspect." ***(See related story on US anti-terror coalition on Page A1.)***

Islamic militia's foreign minister, Wakil Ahmad Mutawakel, renewed the Taliban's warning that neighbors such as Pakistan who assist the United States with a military attack would be considered enemies.

"If any country helps America on this issue or offers its ground or air space to help the US force, we can launch an attack under compulsion," he said.

Pakistan is the Taliban's main ally and one of only three countries that recognize the radical Islamic theocracy in Kabul.

Extraordinary dangers

Abdul Salam Zaeef, the militia's ambassador to Pakistan, cautioned that "if any regional or neighboring country helps the United States attack us it would spark extraordinary dangers . . . it would draw us into a reprisal war."

Fundamentalist Jamaat-i-Islami leader Qazi Hussain Ahmed warned the Pakistani military government of "grave consequences if it allows the use of its territory in any way by the United States to launch attacks on Afghanistan."

"We advise Pakistani rulers and the United States to keep away from a path that had in the past led to the defeat and destruction of the Soviet Union," he said in a speech to some 30 religious and secular parties in the eastern city of Lahore.

The last Afghan jihad, against the Soviet invasion in 1979, led to the Red Army's humiliating withdrawal 10 years later and precipitated the collapse of the Soviet Union.

At the time, Washington actively encouraged the Afghan *mujahideen* (Islamic holy warriors) to wage jihad for independence, pouring billions of dollars into the conflict through its Cold War ally in neighboring Pakistan.

"Arrogance and power games will bring nothing but destruction," Ahmed warned.

Wristwatch for rice

The Central Asian nation of 21 million people has already endured Soviet invasion, civil war, the rise of the radical Taliban regime, widespread hunger and most recently, a punishing drought.

Residents of Kabul were spending their meager savings to stock up on food. Afghans lined up Saturday outside a barbed-wire fence on the border at Torkham, trying to cross into Pakistan. Taliban fighters beat people back with sticks.

"I don't want my children to die in a war," said Sabira, who like many Afghans uses only one name. She waited at the fence with her two boys and two girls, ages 4 to 9.

A 9-year-old boy named Abdul escaped into Pakistan, but his mother, father and siblings were still stuck on the Afghan side. "I won't go back," he said. "I'll just wait and hope they will come, too."

"These days, every night we sit by the radio and listen to the reports. We are afraid but don't have the money to leave," said Zabiullah, a Kabul doctor and father of five.

Like many residents, he waited in line at a shop to stock up on food, in this case a pound of beans.

"Whatever happens, I leave myself and my children in the hands of God. This is a city of beggars," he said.. "We can only hope that the United States will not bomb us. We pray."

Prices for basic foodstuffs have risen by 10 percent or more since Tuesday, making it even more difficult than usual for people to afford them.

"This morning a man came to me, gave me the watch he was wearing and asked for some rice," said Kabul shopkeeper Mohammed Sarwar. "People have been coming with their belongings and asking for food in return."

Worst refugee crisis

UN refugee officials in Iran warned that population movements inside Afghanistan are several times higher than usual.

Pakistan and Iran each has about 2 million Afghan refugees already. Saying it cannot accommodate new arrivals, Iran on Saturday ordered its security forces to seal off its 900-kilometer border with Afghanistan. Pakistan has also agreed to close its borders, Pakistani officials said.

Afghanistan has the world's worst refugee crisis, which has intensified since Tuesday's attacks. It can now expect less aid from the United Nations and foreign relief agencies, most of whose staff have evacuated.

With the expulsion of the last remaining foreigners from the International Committee of the Red Cross, eight aid workers held in custody for allegedly preaching Christianity were among the only remaining Westerners in Afghanistan.

"If there is an attack, of course no one will be spared," said 35-year-old Mira Jan, a Kabuli who was loading his household belongings onto a truck in anticipation of an impending US attack.

Washington launched missile strikes on Bin Laden's Afghanistan bases in 1998 after he was accused of masterminding bomb attacks on US embassies in east Africa that killed 224 people and left thousands wounded.

Despite the mounting pressure, the Taliban reiterated yesterday that it would not hand him over. "There is no change in our policy on Osama bin Laden, we still stick to our previous stand," the Taliban foreign minister, Mutawakel, told AIP.

"It is our responsibility to provide security to all the people living in our country," he said. ***Reports from AFP, AP***

RP support for US war risky–Gringo

(From page A1)

fect our ability to survive any global conflict."

He said that offering the US government "whatever we can afford (by way of humanitarian support) is in order, but hosting any war materiel that may come as a result of this posturing is something we (legislators) have to decide."

Last Saturday, the President declared her administration's full backing for US President George W. Bush's efforts to build an international coalition that would wage war on terrorists responsible for last Tuesday's attacks.

"Whatever support is needed and we are capable of doing, is what we will do. It's all-out support," she had told reporters.

"We should refine that statement some more, make it more categorical," Honasan said. "And, of course, it is Congress which must decide the stance we will take," he added, including whether the Philippines would "align militarily" with the US-led coalition.

But National Security Adviser Roilo Golez warned against staying on the sidelines. Even if Manila did not wish to make enemies, he said, "they will come when you will have no friends left."

UN resolution

Reyes, a former Armed Forces chief of staff, said the President would invoke a UN Security Council resolution to justify the use of the bases.

"If operations will be launched and it will be in pursuit of this UN resolution, then we can participate in this," Reyes said on television.

Asked if the Philippines would volunteer combat troops, he said "that will have to be discussed later."

"But as for participating, and making Clark and Subic available for use, that is within the prerogative of the executive, as architects and chief executors of foreign policy in compliance with the UN Security Council Resolution 1368."

Manila has a 50-year-old mutual defense treaty with Washington, but the Philippine Senate ended a military basing agreement for US forces at Clark Air Base in Pampanga and Subic Naval Base in Zambales in 1991.

Washington last week sought and obtained Manila's permission to use Filipino ports as transit points should the need to evacuate US citizens from Asia and the Middle East arise.

Filipino officials said the Americans had not sought combat support.

Muslim persecution

Kabalu told reporters that jihad could be waged only if Muslims are being persecuted. "At the moment, we are seeing nothing of this."

The MILF is involved in peace talks with the government, after it was driven out of its main base, Camp Abubakar, last year.

Saudi-born Islamic fundamentalist Osama bin Laden, who has been described by both Bush and US Secretary of State Colin Powell as a "prime suspect" in the Sept. 11 terrorist firestorm, is believed to be in hiding somewhere in Afghanistan.

Bush has vowed to "make no distinction" between the terrorists and those who harbor them, but the Taliban has rejected US calls for it to expel Bin Laden from Afghanistan.

Kabalu said the MILF was supporting any US crackdown on terrorists responsible for the attacks as long as civilians were not subjected to indiscriminate arrests.

"We hope that this campaign will not victimize civilians who have nothing to do with the attacks. As long as it is aimed at the terrorists, the MILF will support this campaign."

As for the 12,500-member MILF, Kabalu said, "We are just focusing on the issues in Mindanao."

In Davao City, the presidential assistant for Southern Mindanao called for a Mindanao-wide interfaith, multisectoral consultation tomorrow to discuss the impact of last week's terrorist strikes.

Undersecretary Jesus Dureza said the forum would include bishops, ulama (Islamic scholars), peace advocates and representatives from both private and government sectors.

The consultation is crucial, he said, especially because some of the suspects tagged by the US government were reported to have links with Islamic fundamentalists in the country.

The Abu Sayyaf, reportedly founded by disciples or students of Bin Laden, are still holding 18 hostages in Basilan. ***With reports from AFP, Alcuin Papa, Philip Tubeza and Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

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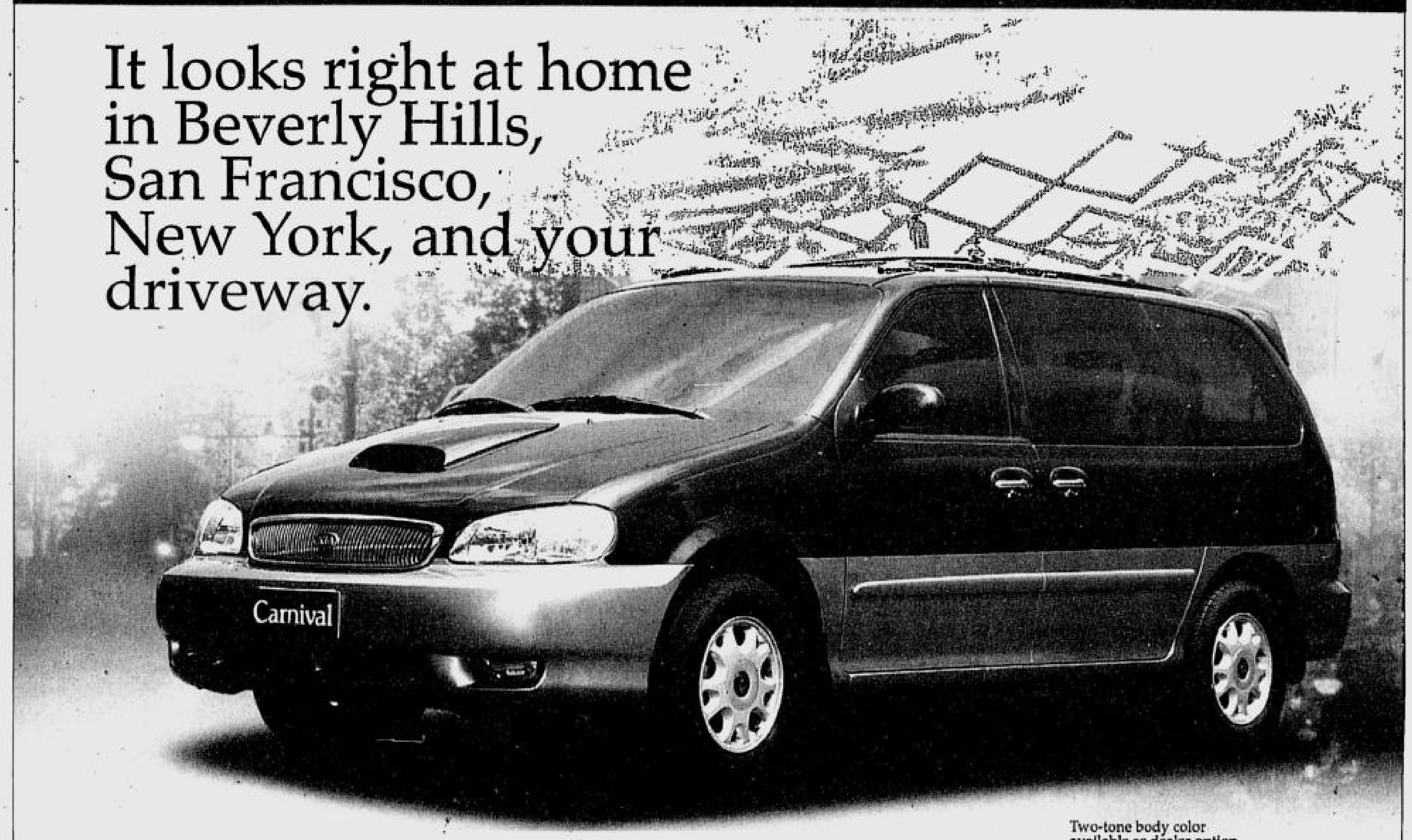

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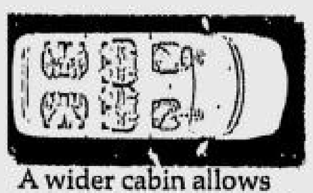

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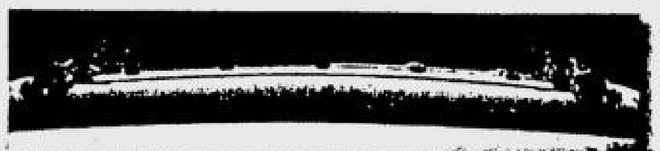

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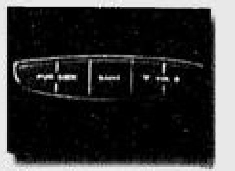
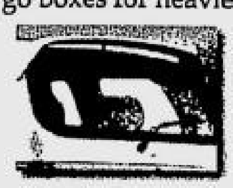
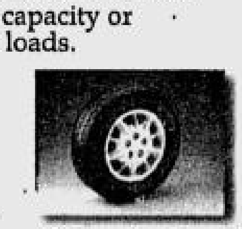


Hands-on stereo remote controls on steering wheel.



Sporty rear roof spoiler.



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Pals rip Hotdogs; Beermen triumph

GAMES WEDNESDAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
5:05p.m.—Red Bull vs Swift
7:10p.m.—Tanduay vs Sta. Lucia

By June Navarro

TALK N TEXT pummeled Purefoods in the shaded area without letup to hammer out a 99-91 victory last night in the PBA Governors Cup at the Cuneta Coliseum.

Bereft of a big man who will stop the Phone Pals in the middle, the TJ Hotdogs could only watch in awe as Asi Taulava, Don Camaso and Brandon Williams did most of the damage inside the paint.

Camaso set the stage for the Phone Pals' assault, pouring six of his nine points, including a triple at the height of their breakaway in the final period.

That spark of brilliance paved the way for the Phone Pals to take the upper hand, 82-76, after laboring for three quarters.

In the second game, San Miguel Beer clobbered Barangay Ginebra, 97-82 for its second consecutive victory. The kings clipped to 1-1.

Williams and Taulava then conspired down the stretch to preserve Camaso's heroics as the Phone Pals marched to their second straight victory in as many games.

The Hotdogs, who lost skyscrapers Andy Seigle and EJ Feihl due to injuries, picked up their second defeat in three matches.

"It's been a long while since we won back-to-back in the All-Filipino. Credit goes to the locals who helped Williams carry the team," said Talk N Text coach Louie Alas.

To make up for Seigle and Feihl's loss, the Hotdogs went to Boyet Fernandez, Alvin Patrimonio and Noy Castillo in the perimeter.

Scores:

TALK N TEXT 99—Williams 28, Taulava 27, Ejercito 17, Camaso 9, Demape 6, Pablo 4, Codinera 4, Fran 2, Gonzales 2.

PUREFOODS 91—Brown 18, Evangelista 17, Patrimonio 15, Fernandez 15, Castillo 13, Yee 10, Victoria 3, Manuel 0.

Quarters: 24-19, 45-49, 72-76, 99-91.

Boracay tilt set

THE FIRST Boracay Fish ID Scuba Diving Adventure will be held at Lorenzo Resort in cooperation with New Wave Divers on Oct. 27-29. For an entry fee of only P4,900, participating divers will be treated to discounted airfares, two nights and two days accommodations five meals, four dives, a cocktail party plus a chance to win resort accommodations. They may also be featured in the show "Unlimited Diving" which is aired over NBN Channel 4 Fridays 11-11:30 p.m. For inquiries, (632) 920-8505, 0917-9368895 or e-mail at unlimitediving@yahoo.com

ASSURANCE

No PSC revamp, says Mike

WARREN Kiamco(standing, right) and Efren "Bata" Reyes are joined by First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, PSC Chair Butch Tuason and chief of mission Freddie Jalasco after the 15-ball singles final (billiards) in the Kuala Lumpur SEA Games. Kiamco beat Reyes, 5-4, to win the gold Saturday night.

By Dennis Eroa

KUALA LUMPUR—Forget about the so-called revamp of the Philippine Sports Commission after the 21st Southeast Asian Games here.

No less than First Gentleman Mike Arroyo yesterday assured that PSC chair Carlos Tuason will stay in office and continue to chart government's thrust in sports during a luncheon with sportswriters at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

Arroyo, who arrived here Saturday night from Tokyo to award Filipino medal winners in athletics and billiards, said that there is no basis for a PSC revamp.

"Butch (Tuason) has already submitted his resignation a long way back. The President, I can tell you, continues to believe in his capabilities to lead the PSC," Arroyo said. He stressed that he has been updating the President regarding the Philippine campaign here.

An earlier report (not in the INQUIRER) alleged of a revamp in the government agency regardless of the outcome of the Philippine stint in the SEAG.

While the Philippines has not met its 40-gold medal projection, Tuason said that the nationals performed well despite some problems bugging the various national sports associations.

"We're happy. Our athletes played with focus and we've lost golds with the slimmest of margins," Tuason said. "My call is for us to forget about politics and work together for excellence."

Arroyo said he congratulated athletics chief Go Teng Kok for the impressive showings of his charges.

Following a sweep of the marathon golds, athletics finished its campaign with eight golds, 11 silvers and four bronzes, second best to Thailand's 22-8-11 G-S-B haul.

ERNIE SARMIENTO

VENCE: Marathon champ.

The track and field stars, thus equalled their eight-gold showing in the 1991 Manila SEAG, becoming the best-performing Filipino athletes in this Games.

Arroyo also lauded heptathlon winner Elma Muros-Posadas for going out in a blaze of glory. "She fought all adversities and made her last hurrah for the Philippines."

Muros-Posadas, 34, and fellow SEA Games great Lydia de Vega-Mercado, along with PSC Commissioner Cynthia Carreon and Ritchie Garcia joined Arroyo during the meeting. Also present were double-gold medal winners Eduardo Buenavista and marathon champions Roy Vence and Christabel Martes.

Tuason said the PSC is tapping the expertise of Muros-Posadas and company to go into the grassroots and create a new breed of Filipino stars.

Archers upend Eagles

GAMES THURSDAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
2:30 p.m.—UE vs NU
5:00 p.m. —Admu vs FEU

DE LA Salle downed archrival Ateneo for the second time this season, 76-63, to claim the No. 1 spot in the Final Four of the UAAP basketball tournament yesterday at the Araneta Coliseum.

The Green Archers, who finished the elimination round with a 12-2 card, will meet the winner of the NU-UE playoff match for the last semis berth on Thursday at 2:30 p.m., also at the Big Dome.

In the 5 p.m. main game, Ateneo and Far Eastern University start their own Final Four series.

The Tamaraws nipped NU, 70-68, earlier to take the third slot in the semis.

The Green Archers found themselves ahead by just a basket, 52-50, after a 7-0 run by the Blue Eagles but countered with an 8-2 blast to take control.

La Salle also won over Ateneo during the first round, 91-76.

The Blue Eagles led after the first two quarters, 30-28, despite being outrebounded, 18-26.

Ateneo wound up its elimination round campaign at 10-4.

Orchard edges Alta Vista

DAN Salvador III and Mariano Castañeda joined hands to power Orchard "D" to a close victory in Group I even as Alta Vista I and Eagle Ridge "B" topped the two other divisions in the Visayas leg of the Sta. Lucia Golf Tour 2001 in Cebu over the weekend.

Salvador was steady with 28 points each for two days while Castañeda made a big rebound from a 22 with a 29 the next day as they steered teammates Aaron Topacio (48) and Rudel Panganiban (45) to a one-point win over the favored Alta Vista "F" quartet with a 155 total.

Alta Vista I, getting a tournament-high 30 points from Antonio de Jesus Jr., demolished their rivals in group II with a 36-hole output of 149, finishing 21 clear of the undermanned Eagle Ridge "O".

De Jesus' demolition crew also included Michael Jo, Nelson Yuvallos and Joy Anthony Ong.

The huge Eagle Ridge contingent got a big reprieve from its B team made up of Antonio del Rosario, Rossano Torres, Michael Ner and Roberto Tapawan which nipped Royalle Tagaytay "F" in a countback for the Group III division.

De Jesus edged Salvador in the countback for the Class A individual title: The other individual winners were Mario Naval (Eagle Ridge), Sergio Boy Gonzalez (Alta Vista H) and Vincent Tiamsic (Eagle Ridge J).

Sta. Lucia Realty president Exequiel Robles and executive committee vice chair engineer Winnie Gob awarded the prizes to the winners together with club officials.

Co-sponsors of the event are Golforce Inc., Gainers Marketing, Atlanta Industries, Kubota Agro-Ind. Machinery Phils., Unirock, Readycon, Club Car, Cebu Plaza Hotel, Omega, Yamaha/Kart Plaza, Philippine Airlines, Kodak Digital Camera, Semicon Inc., Marco Polo Hotel, Isuzu Fuego-Cebu and Neltex and Anako for this year's tour.

Davao hosts Rotary meet

EIGHT holes with P1 million at stake as a whopping prize for an ace will certainly spice up the competition when the southern leg of the Rotary Golfing Fellowship Foundation of the Philippines (RGFFP) tournament is held in two Davao courses on Sept. 19-23.

Tournament director Pancho Perrea bared yesterday that all holes at the Apo Golf and Country Club and the Rancho Palos will have a standard length of 155 yards with the approval of the sponsoring Seaboard Eastern Insurance Co. through its president Joe Halili-Co.

The prize will be shared if more than one player score an ace on any of the par-3s of the two host venues. Only five Rotarians have scored P1 million aces since it was introduced by Halili-Co.

Sharing stellar billing with Seaboard Eastern is Taylor Made-Adidas which makes its first major involvement in the series by serving as the major sponsor.

Other confirmed sponsors are Petron Corp., Grepalife, SYM Misujoshi, Menzi&Co., Smart Communications and EEI Corp., among others.

For more information, call RGFFP office c/o Pancho Perea or Theresa Romero at tel. No. 721-0564, 721-8896 and fax no. 721-5940.

Mitra Cup 2 races slated Oct. 10-14

ANOTHER blockbuster five-day racing festival is in the offing when the Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization stages the Philtobo Futurity Championships-Mitra Cup 2 on Oct. 10-14 at the San Lazaro Hippodrome.

Four Mitra Cup futurity races will highlight the event staged in honor of the late Mitra, Philtobo's founding chair who passed away last year.

"We are truly proud to once again spearhead the staging of this grand racing affair, a tribute to the vision of Philtobo's founding chair, Speaker Monching Mitra," said Philtobo chair Antonio M. Lagdameo during the event's recent launching at the Manila Jockey Club.

The four big events are the twin bill Mitra Cup Juvenile Colts and Juvenile Fillies Championship, and the companion double-header, the Mitra Cup Three-Year Old Colts and Three-Year-Old Fillies Championships featuring gallopers who graced the 1999 and 2000 Philtobo Horse Shows.

Winners of the four Mitra Cup races get replicas of the original Mitra Cup created renowned national artist and famous Filipino sculptor Eduardo Castrillo.

"Manila Jockey Club is certainly honored to host this year's Philtobo-Mitra Cup Championships," said MJCI Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Roberto R. Reverante.

More than 200 horses, graduates of the Philtobo Horse Shows, are qualified to compete in the four featured races.

Among those present during the launching were GAB Chair Eduardo Villanueva, Eduardo Mitra (representing the Mitra family) and the directors of Philtobo including event chair lawyer Jose Ferdinand Rojas II.

Comeback

NBA NOTES

Henry Liao

BARRING any hitches, Michael Jordan is set to formally announce on Sept. 20 his decision to come out of a second NBA retirement and suit up for the struggling Washington Wizards in the upcoming 2001-02 season.

To play for the Wizards, who last season posted the third-worst record in the majors at 19-63 and missed the playoffs for the fourth consecutive year, the 38-year-old legend had to divest his minority interest in the wizards (and divert it to the National Hockey League's Washington Capitals, whose owners also own the Wizards) under NBA rules and give up his position as the club's president of basketball operations.

The 6-6 Jordan indirectly hinted his 1"third coming" last Sept. 10 during an informal 30-minute talk with reporters from The Associated Press, Chicago Sun-Times and CNNSI.com outside his restaurant in Chicago. Notwithstanding the tendinitis in the right knee that he battled recently, he said he's returning to the NBA following a three-year sabbatical "for the love of the game."

Jordan also did not put a limit on how long this latest comeback might last, declaring he wanted to play for years.

The two-time Olympian out of the University of North Carolina earlier said that a news conference was planned in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 20 to announce his decision to return. But with the much-publicized terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C. on Sept. 11 that claimed the lives of thousands of people, MJ decided three days later to shelve the news conference and instead make his announcement on that day in a low-key approach via facsimile.

Space constraints

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

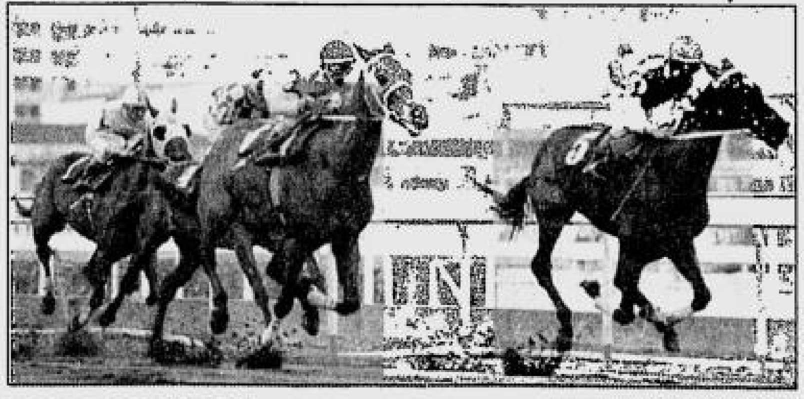
SORRY but due to space constraints, a large portion of my recent column (Dance champs arriving) was snipped off. For the record, here's the missing part:

"Dancesport in the country has indeed come of age," said lawyer Noel Laman, council chair. "Furthermore,"stressed vice president Jun Herrera, "our dance athletes are better trained and better equipped at present because they have their own modern training center at the Philsports Arena, courtesy of Philippine Sports Commission chair Carlos "Butch" Tuason."

On Sept. 27-29, the council will stage its biggest dance congress and competition of the year at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium. Billed as the 5th National Dancesport Congress and 5th National Championships-Alaxan Cup, more than 100 couples from all over the country are taking part in the star-studded affair. Arriving for this event is the original cast of "Burn the Floor," the European professional 10-dance champions John Byrnes and Jane Lyttleton of England. They will conduct a workshop on Sept. 27-28 and perform a special together with Japan's Keiji Ukai and other foreign judges.

Last July, renowned German dance coach and adjudicator Wolfgang Opitz shared his know-how with the locals, while much earlier, other dancesport luminaries also came here to conduct workshop sand show their savvy, among them, world standard dance professional champions Sacha and Olga Zenkevitch of Russia, pro Latin title-holders Jikka Haapalainen and Sirpa Suutra of Finland and European Latin champion pair Jason Roditis and Tonia Kosovich of Greece. The celebrated Marcel de Rijk, chair of the Dance Teachers Committee of World Dancers and Dance sports Council; and Dutch professional Latin champions Ian Waite and Natalia Panima also came and shared their winning tips.

"Right now," said Ms Garcia, "we are concentrating on training the youth such as junior Latin champions John Erolle Melencio and Krystel Darne Tadeo and the pair of Rener Mercado and Judith Anne Melencio. By year 2008, these kids will be the ones representing the Philippines, hopefully, in the Olympic games. They are the future of Philippine dancesport."


THIRD VICTORY

VAL HANDUMON

Golden Ballet (6), handled by J.B. Hernandez, trails Tigra (5) in the early going of the Valentine Party Stakes race yesterday at the San Lazaro Hippodrome. Golden Ballet (Treasure Cay-Likeable Style), owned and bred by businessman Jun Almeda, went on to win the race pulling away. It was her third victory in as many outings.

Roligon 5-stag derby on

RESPECTED cockers from Metro Manila and nearby provinces will pit their entries today in the ASF 5-Stag Derby at the Roligon Mega Cockpit in Parañaque City.

Among those who confirmed their participation in this derby hosted by Allan and Company are lawyer Rudy Salud, R. Saito, Pol Estrellado, Cong. Rudy Albano, Boy Gamilla, Dennis del Rosario, Emit San Juan, Mande Garcia, Blandy Tolentino, Peping Suarez, lawyer Joey Mendoza and others.

Promoter of the event is Danny Ty.

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Johnson retires in style

YOKOHAMA, Japan—Running in his final race, American sprinting legend Michael Johnson retired in style Saturday, leading the Dream Team to victory in the Swedish Relay at the Yokohama Super Track athletics meet.

SPORTS

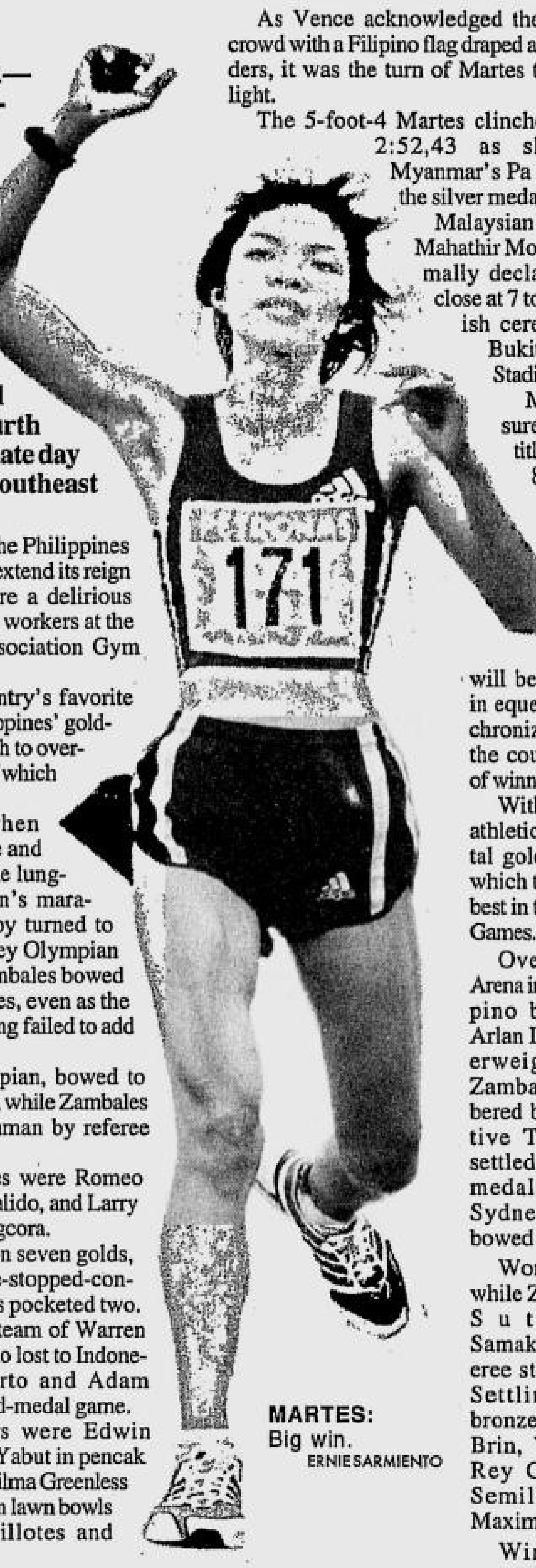
AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ▨ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

SEA GAMES

RP ends up 5th

Dribblers, marathoners deliver; boxers lose

BY DENNIS EROA



MARTES: Big win.
ERNIE SARMIENTO

KUALA LUMPUR—Perfect start, bad ending.

This came about yesterday as the Philippines started the day with two athletics golds only to bomb out in boxing, judo and billiards which allowed Vietnam to seize fourth overall in the penultimate day of action in the 21st Southeast Asian Games.

As if any consolation, the Philippines routed Malaysia, 81-59, to extend its reign in men's basketball before a delirious crowd of Filipino overseas workers at the Malaysian Basketball Association Gym here.

The victory in the country's favorite pastime improved the Philippines' gold-medal haul to 30, not enough to overhaul Vietnam's 33, seven of which came in pencak silat.

Hopes were high when battle-grizzled Roy Vence and Christabel Martes ruled the lung-busting men's and women's marathon, respectively, but joy turned to grief by nightfall as Sydney Olympian Arlan Lerio and Ramil Zambales bowed to superior Thai boxing foes, even as the judokas competing in Penang failed to add to the gold-medal tally.

Lerio, a Sydney Olympian, bowed to Chotipat Wongprates, 9-19, while Zambales lost to Sutthisak Samaksaman by referee stopped contest.

Settling for the bronzes were Romeo Brin, Violito Payla, Rey Galido, and Larry Semillano, Maximo Tabangcora.

All in all, the Thais won seven golds, four of which were referee-stopped-contests, while the Malaysians pocketed two.

The nine-ball doubles team of Warren Kiamco and Vivancio Taino lost to Indonesians Muhammad Junarto and Adam Abdurahim, 5-3, in the gold-medal game.

Also winning silvers were Edwin Simacon and Christopher Yabut in pencak silat, the women's pair of Vilma Greenless and Maria Leonora Rivera in lawn bowls and judokas Nancy Quillotes and Abraham Pulia.

Arnel Quirimit placed third in the 180-km road race mass start, same with the Philippine men's golf and women's basketball and volleyball teams.

The 35-year-old Vence clocked two hours, 23 minutes and 51 seconds, followed by teammate Allan Ballester in 2:24.38.

As Vence acknowledged the cheers of the crowd with a Filipino flag draped around his shoulders, it was the turn of Martes to get the spotlight.

The 5-foot-4 Martes clinched the gold in 2:52,43 as she relegated Myanmar's Pa Pa (2:55.51) to the silver medal.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed will formally declare the Games close at 7 tonight amid lavish ceremonies at the Bukit Jalil National Stadium.

Malaysia is assured of the overall title with a 108-73-84 haul, followed by Thailand (100-83-87) and Indonesia (72-73-81).

Golds will be at stake today in equestrian and synchronized diving with the country's chances of winning virtually nil.

With the twin wins, athletics raised its total gold haul to eight which tied its previous best in the 1991 Manila Games.

Over at the Paloi Arena in Seremban, Filipino bantamweight Arlan Lerio and featherweight Ramil Zambales got clobbered by their respective Thai foes and settled for the silver medals. Lerio, a Sydney Olympian, bowed to Chotipat

Wongprates, 9-19, while Zambales lost to Sutthisak Samaksaman by referee stopped contest. Settling for the bronzes were Romeo Brin, Violito Payla, Rey Galido, Larry Semillano and Maximo Tabangcora.

Winning silvers were Edwin Simacon in pencak silat, and the women's pair of Vilma Greenless and Maria Leonora Rivera in lawn bowls: Arnel Quirimit placed third in the 180km road race mass start, same with the Philippine men's golf and women's basketball and volleyball teams.

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

MOTOR SPORTS: Race Day - Italian Grand Prix at 8:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

2001 F1 World Championships - Italian Grand Prix at 9:15 (r) on Star Sports

Chequered Flag – F1 Italian Grand Prix at 11:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: NFL Primetime at 7:30 a.m. on ESPN

NFL - Cleveland Browns vs Pittsburgh Steelers at 8:30 a.m. (r – 5 p.m. on ESPN

TENNIS: ATP President's Cup 2001 Finals at 3 p.m. on Star Sports

GOLF: Golfglobe 2001 at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

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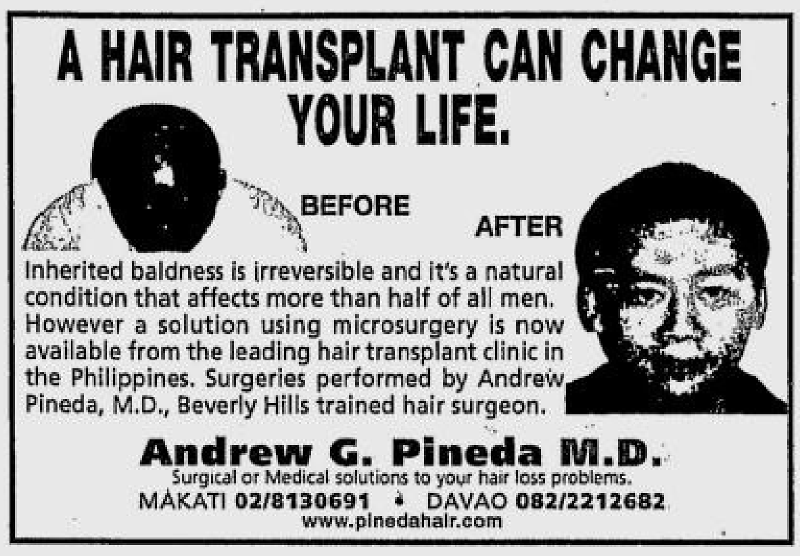
MEDAL TALLY

As of 8:30 p.m., Sept. 16

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Malaysia	105	73	83	261
Thailand	99	82	86	267
Indonesia	71	70	79	220
Vietnam	33	34	61	128
Philippines	29	63	65	157
Singapore	22	31	42	95
Myanmar	17	14	51	82
Laos	1	3	7	11
Cambodia	1	1	5	7
Brunei	0	5	6	11



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Pinoys capture golf team bronze medals

THE PHILIPPINE men and women golf teams bested their respective opponents yesterday and settled for bronze medals in the 21st Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur.

Powered by individual champion Juvic Pagunsan, the Filipinos edged the Indonesians, 2-1, while the Filipinas leaned on Carmelette Villaroman to nip the Malaysians in the playoff at the Sungai Long Golf & Country Club.

Villaroman won her match to make up for Heidi Chua's defeat and tie the Malaysians at 1-1, necessitating the playoff originally set for three holes at 16, 17 and 18.

With Villaroman and her counterpart still tied, the playoff was extended to holes 1 and 2, where Villaroman eventually prevailed with a par to avert a medal shutout for the Filipinas and give the golfers a 1-gold, 3-bronze haul in the biennial meet.

Ladies team captain Alice Andrada paid tribute to Villaroman saying "She (Villaroman) had a heart of a tiger."

Counting her 38-hole stint on Saturday, Villaroman played a total of 51 holes in two days as she made up for her fifth place finish in the individual race.

Andrada was actually thinking of fielding in Ruby Chico-Walker in the playoff, but relented when Villaroman assured her that she could still go on.

Pagunsan capped his successful debut in the SEAG by beating his Indon opponent for a 2-1 Philippine victory. Boyet Saragoza also won, while Jay Bayron dropped his match.

The other member of the men's team was Marvin Dumandan with Iggy Clavecilla as team captain.

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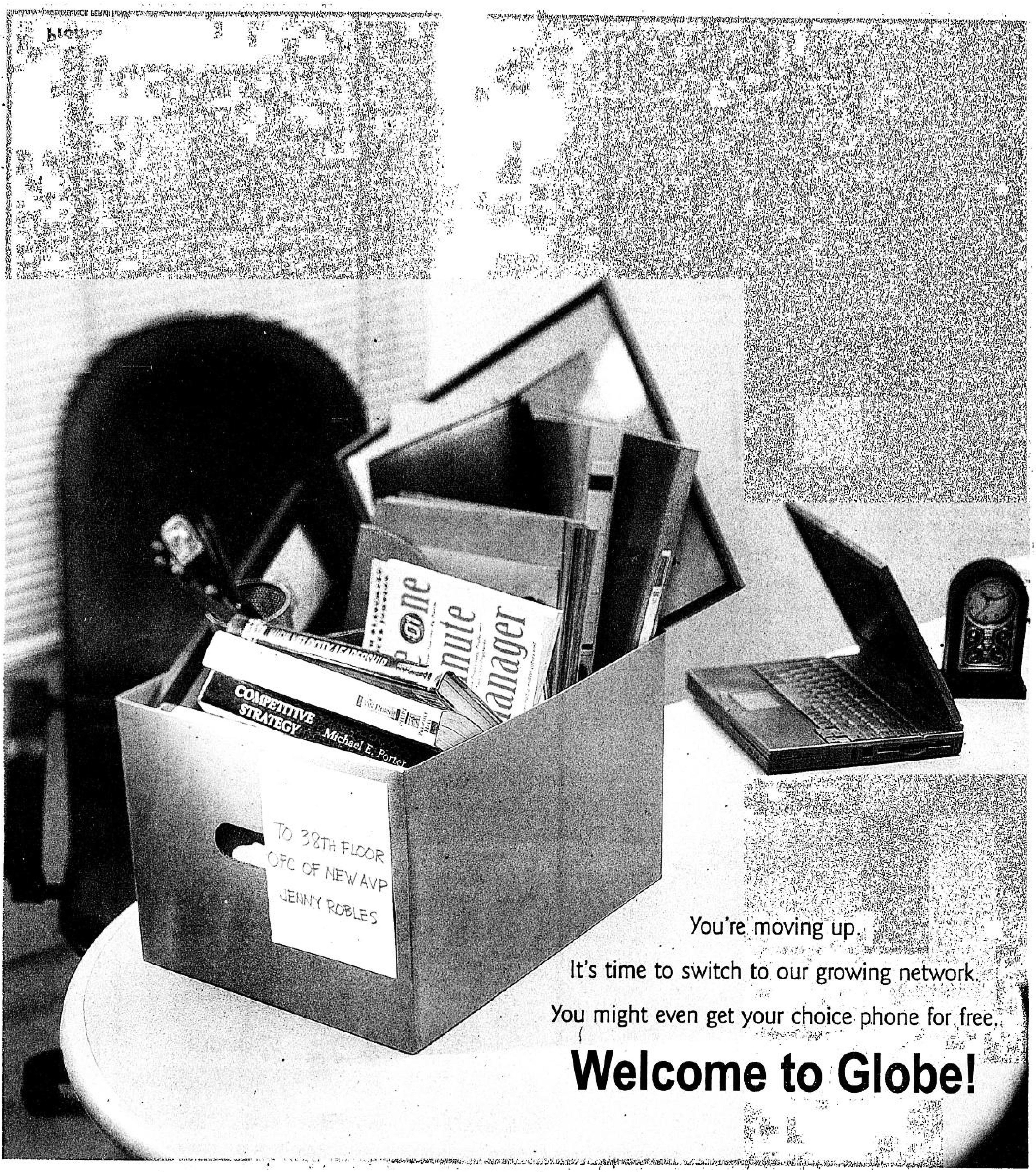

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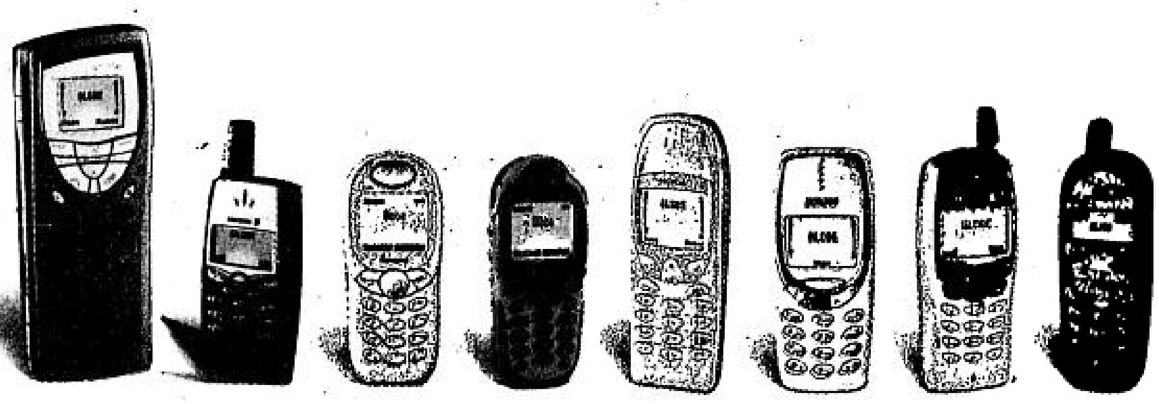

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METRO
LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

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Conservationists now want San Sebastian altar parts restored A28

Manila to hasten oil depot phaseout

Move prompted by recent attacks on NY, Washington

BY JEROME ANING

THE MANILA city government will phase out the oil depot in Pandacan district sooner than planned in the wake of last week's terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington DC.

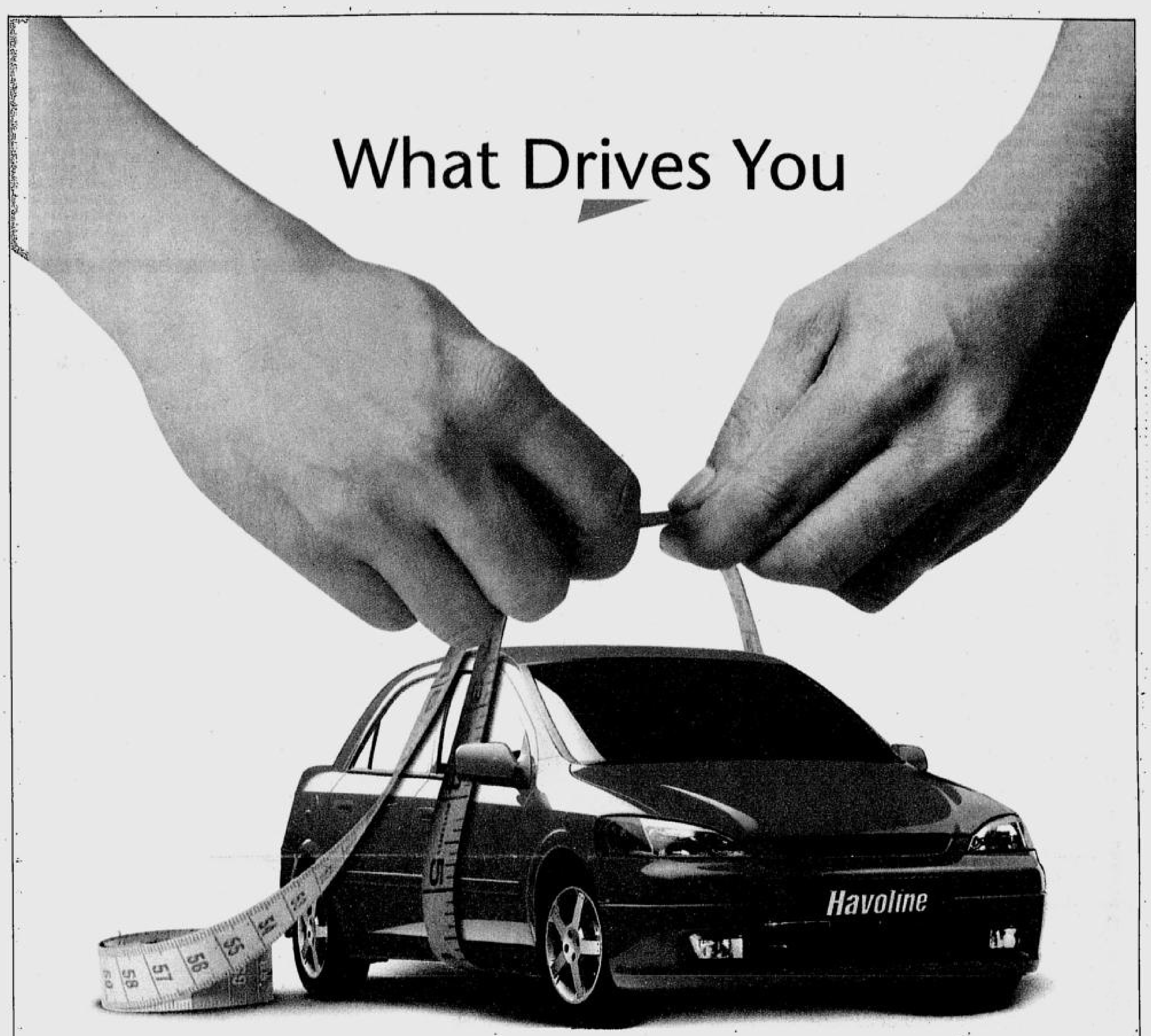
The Manila city government said the phaseout would take place within six months to two years, instead of the original timetable of three to five years, noting the vulnerability of the oil depot to terrorist attacks.

"The situation has drastically changed because of recent attacks on New York City and Washington DC," said a press statement from the office of Manila Mayor Lito Atienza.

"This experience has shown that despite the most stringent security measures, no facility is 100 percent safe from a determined terrorist group that would not hesitate to employ barbaric and unconventional means to inflict maximum damage," Atienza said in the statement.

Residents of Pandacan and nearby areas have also expressed concern about their safety and the danger that the depot in their midst pose to

MANILA TO HASTEN/ A26



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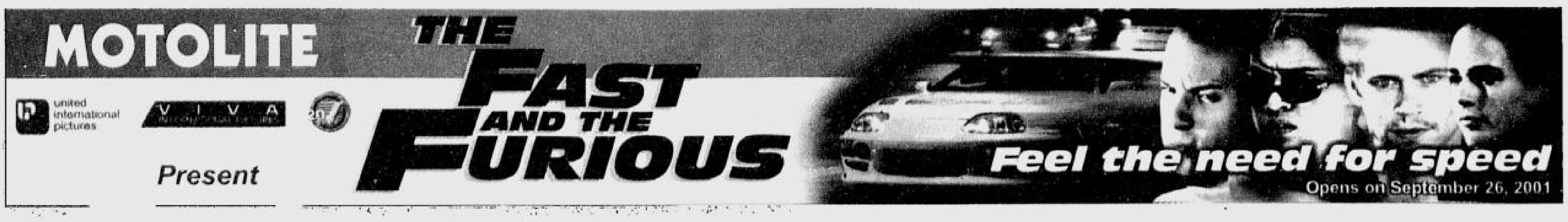

Gentleman Mike, GTK: Right time, right place

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

KUALA LUMPUR—It rolled smoothly like a scripted act. Elma Muros couldn't have picked a better stage for a farewell performance. She was hesitant at first but she finally came here, bucked the years, all the assorted aches, to again stamp her class and pick up the heptathlon gold.

Let's give her a standing ovation. It was not part of the script. He didn't have to flex a muscle. But, just like Elma, First Gentleman Mike Arroyo was here at the right time and the right place. He had actually come here to enjoy the first Philippine gold medals.

After a few days, Mr. Arroyo flew home and joined the President on a state visit to Japan. But the First Gentleman—the TV crew calls him FG—surprised RP delegation members when he suddenly resurfaced Saturday to share center stage with Filipino gold medalists in both billiards and athletics.

Needless to say, Mr. Arroyo, definitely among the most visible Filipino performers, also shared wholesome television footage with remaining Filipino winners.

* * *

Now, if the President's sports-loving husband would bother to honor top Filipino performers in the 21st Southeast Asian Games at the Malacañang Palace, he should make sure athletics president Go Teng Kok is on the guest list.

OK. Let his critics and enemies smirk and shake their heads, but how do they deny Go his deserved praise? The guy, no doubt, has delivered on his promise. When marathon, the final event in athletics, started early Sunday morning, Go's army had already landed a total of six gold medals.

There actually had been initial apprehension that Go could've been deluded by the productive pre-Games sorties of his charges in neighboring Asian countries. But after the Philippines plucked two more gold medals courtesy of Go's marathoners yesterday, it could no longer be denied that the athletics team has become the successful Filipino squad here.

* * *

Of course, there was also the billiards team. And not because all the cue artists had won the desired medals.

Anyway, if the First Gentleman would play Santa to select members of the RP contingent, he should also include several Filipino athletes who did not bag the gold here.

For example, there's Efren "Bata" Reyes, winner of the silver medals in both the eight-ball and 15-ball singles.

Bata Reyes, who skipped three international tournaments including the rich US Open, did miss the gold medals, as he yielded to Lee Vann Corteza and Warren Kiamco in the two times he appeared in the pool finals.

No gold, but Filipino billiards team officials were one in swearing they could have not hit their target without Bata Reyes.

The Magician played a vital role in leading and inspiring his teammates to peak performance. Funny, but Reyes himself had to keep on denying that he intentionally dropped the gold medals in favor of his younger teammates. With his legend, fans could not seem to believe how he could have lost in the twin finals he had figured in.

Bata humbly shrugged all the claims. He insisted he played his best but was happy enough to have seen the Filipino winners all the way to the finals. His younger teammates needed the honors more than he did.

* * *

So the RP contingent failed to hit its 40-gold medal target.

Just the same, the First Gentleman could have his hands full if he decides to welcome top Filipino winners in Malacañang. The karatekas, the bowlers, the wushu artists, the taekwondo jins, the runners, the pool table masters, the basketball team, all the winners should be invited.

The list may not be long as had been initially wished and promised.

But, for a change, it may also help both the country and Mr. Arroyo, definitely a keen lover of sports, if he could also welcome a few losers at the Palace. For starters, our beloved First Gentleman, with the help of the big losers, could guide future contingents to, say, the next Asian Games or the Olympics, on what silly steps not to follow or take.

This one would indeed look terribly odd. But boxing chief Manny Lopez should be asked to detail why his boxers had their most miserable showing here.

* * *

It would be a painful task for the young Lopez, very much unlike what Mr. Arroyo had to do during the award rites here. Lopez need not make a public confession, and could just confide everything in Gentleman Mike. But, for a change, Lopez may have to start preparing a tiny thesis on what went wrong, again, with the boxing team.

Lopez, who had threatened to walk out at one point in the semifinals, may have to finally admit his shortcomings.

He should be made to come up with remedies. No old excuses, like hometown cheating, please. Why? Because it could no longer be denied that the national amateur boxing body operates on a weak, obsolete system.

Take it from someone who had witnessed the successive fall of the Filipino fighters here. We have sent here an inferior, poorly trained, poorly coached boxing team.

Unlike with Mr. Arroyo, it was the wrong time and the wrong place for the vanquished Filipino fighters.

Manila to . . .

(From page A25)

their health.

Earlier, a leakage from the depot felled some students at the nearby Polytechnic College of the Philippines after they allegedly inhaled fumes from the leakage.

"Our primary concern is safety, especially of the residents in Pandacan and nearby areas," Atienza said.

The mayor presided over a caucus of his allies in the city council on Friday, where he was expected to push for the speedy passage of a new zoning ordinance for Pandacan.

But Atienza clarified that City Hall would work closely with the oil firms operating the Pandacan oil depot, which is located on the southern bank of the Pasig River, to facilitate the phase-out and the transfer of the facilities to proposed alternative sites such as Bataan and Batangas.

The United Firefighters Association of the Philippines also called for the depot's relocation, saying the depot was accident-prone and endangered the lives of thousands of residents in eastern Manila.

The Senate energy committee chaired by Sen. Renato Cayetano will also look into the apparent public safety hazards from the oil depot.

"We recognize the growing concern of residents that the oil depot has made communities vulnerable to life-threatening risks," Cayetano said.

Atienza said the "city government will help the oil firms in every way we can but they have to respond to this urgent concern. The oil depot poses a serious threat to security and we cannot just sit and wait for a catastrophe to happen."

Underground pipelines connect the Pandacan depot to refineries in Batangas province.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, September 17, 2001
24th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **1 Tim 2:1-8**
Gospel: **Lk 7:1-10**

When Jesus had finished teaching to the people, he went to Capernaum.

There was a captain whose servant was very sick and near to death, a man very dear to him. So when he heard about Jesus, he sent some elders of the Jews to persuade him to come and save his servant's life. The elders came to Jesus and begged him earnestly, saying, "He deserves this of you, for he loves our people and even built a synagogue for us."

Jesus went with them. He was not far from the house when the captain sent friends to give this message, "Sir, do not trouble yourself for I am not worthy to welcome you under my roof. You see I didn't approach you myself. Just give the order and my servant will be healed. For I myself, a junior officer, give orders to my soldiers and I say to this one: 'Go,' and he goes; and to the other: 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant: 'Do this,' and he does it." On hearing these words, Jesus was filled with admiration. He turned and said to the people with him, "I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such great faith." The people sent by the captain went back to his house; there they found that the servant was well.

Commentary

Jesus often rebuked his disciples for their lack of faith. Here he commends a non-Jew for his great faith, not found elsewhere in Israel. The humble centurion says "I am not worthy that you enter my house. Just say a word and my servant will be healed." He believes in the powerful word of Jesus. He explains his belief using his experience as a military officer. Just as his words as a military officer are obeyed by his men, so too Jesus' word will be followed even at a distance. This vicarious faith astounds Jesus and benefits his sick servant. Blessed is the person who has great faith.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

MERCANTILE LAW (TRANSPORTATION LAW)—Extraordinary diligence—We agree with the findings of both courts that petitioners failed to observe extraordinary diligence that fateful morning. It must be noted that a common carrier, by the nature of its business and for reasons of public policy, is bound to carry passengers safely as far as human car and foresight can provide. It is supposed to do so by using the utmost diligence of very cautious persons, with due regard for all the circumstances. In case of death or injuries to passengers, it is presumed to have been at fault or to have acted negligently, unless it proves that it observed extraordinary diligence as prescribed in Articles 1733 and 1755 of the Civil Code. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Panganiban, Baritua v. Mercader, G.R. No. 136048, January 23, 2001].

DIGEST BY R.B. VERA

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Inquirer employee robbed

By Eline Santos

VIRGINIA B. Osorio, a member of the production staff of the INQUIRER's lifestyle section, was robbed in her Sampaloc, Manila home on Sept. 11, the day the terrorists attacked the United States.

Rushing home to Geronimo Street to catch the television coverage of the US attacks, Osorio instead found a different version of chaos in her ransacked place.

"I didn't know I had so many clothes until I saw them strewn all over the place," Osorio said.

She counted a wallet with some foreign currency, two watches, bracelets, a necklace and a phone charger as among the things that were stolen.

"It felt like my house burned down," she said.

She deplored the delayed arrival of police. She said she reported the robbery around 10 p.m., but police arrived at 3 a.m.

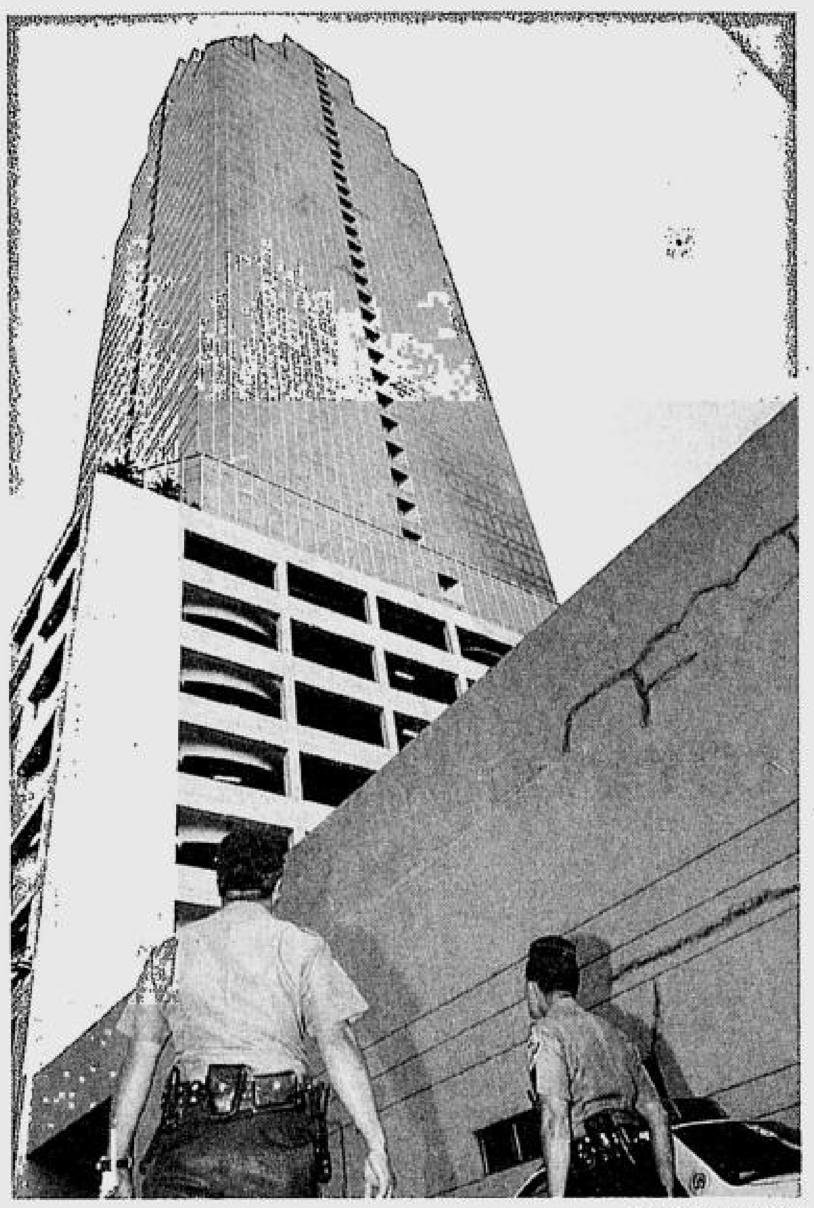
She said work on the second floor of her house had just been completed after five months and the robbery happened just after the window jalousies were fixed and a day after she installed a bolt.

The thief entered through a window after taking out the jalousies, she said.

Osorio said that instead of keeping the robber out, the new bolt prevented her from coming in until a friend from downstairs managed to open it.

Osorio's mother died only last April. "It is only now that I feel the difficulty of being alone," Osorio said, adding she fears robbers might strike again.

Osorio believes someone who helped build the house would be a likely suspect because the door to her room was jimmied in a way that showed knowledge of its construction.



RANDY HORMILLOSA

THREATENED TOWER

Their Makati building is not as tall as the ill-fated World Trade Center towers in New York, but occupants of the 43-story Rufino Pacific Tower, said to be one of the tallest in the city, were just as terrified as their American counterparts when an unidentified phone caller said a bomb would explode at the RPT at 3 p.m. Friday. The building was evacuated but police found no bomb.

'They should die for what they did to my daughter'

By Philip C. Tubeza

"THEY should all die for what they did to my daughter."

A tearful Marcel Geralde, 53, said this after the Central Police District arrested one of at least four men who raped and murdered his 13-year-old daughter in Quezon City on Thursday.

The girl, Marycel Geralde, was raped and her body was cut up in Pantranco, Quezon City. The suspects then put her into a pushcart and dumped her body under the Metro Rail Transit main station near SM North Edsa.

To make sure that police would have a hard time identifying the victim, the suspects smashed her face with a rock before they left her naked body at the MRT station before dawn Thursday.

The girl's father, a carpenter, yesterday asked for help from authorities and demanded justice for his daughter.

Geralde also asked for financial help from authorities. Four days after the rape and murder, his daughter's body is still in the morgue because he has no money for her burial.

Police have arrested Jeffrey de Vega, 24, of Pantranco, Quezon City, but he denied having anything to do with the gruesome crime.

But Geralde told the **Inquirer** that the authorities have three witnesses, aged 10 and 11, who pointed to De Vega and four other men as the culprits.

"They were my daughter's *barkada,*" the carpenter said. "I don't know how they could do this to my daughter."

He said he had not slept for the past three nights.

He said his daughter ran away from home in Cogeo, Antipolo City last Monday for no apparent reason.

"She had stopped going to school for the past two years because I did not want her to go with this *barkada* of hers," he said.

He said his daughter had run away before. She would join her friends in selling sampaguita garlands outside SM North Edsa.

"What disturbed me was that the older members (the suspects) of the group used their earnings to buy rugby, which they would then sniff in a vacant lot in Pantranco," he said.

Marycel apparently met her friends again last week. But this time, she did not return home alive.

One of the witnesses told Geralde that his daughter had already sold all her sampaguita garlands and was about to sleep when the four or five suspects pounced on her in the vacant lot in Pantranco.

"He said he saw them rip off her clothes," the father said. "One of the culprits then warned the witness not to tell anybody."

Investigation showed that besides being raped, the victim was slashed in both arms and in the face.

"Her body had no wound but there was a hole in the side of her head," the girl's father said. "They must have used a *tres kantos* (a sharpened file)."

He said the suspects then put his daughter's naked body into a pushcart and, from Pantranco, brought it to the MRT main station on Edsa where they dumped her body. Her skull cracked after the suspects smashed a rock on her face, he said.

"We recovered her shirt and panties in the vacant lot," he said. "They were bloodied.

"I hope they all die for what they did," he added. 'My daughter was so innocent, she enjoyed playing with the younger children of our neighbors."

Police are still looking for the other suspects.

Army soldier stabbed dead

By Philip C. Tubeza

PHILIPPINE Army T/Sgt. Jose A. Germinal, 50, was stabbed dead in front of four other soldiers outside Camp Aguinaldo before dawn on Saturday.

Germinal, of Barangay Rizal, Makati, was killed after he confronted three men who stoned the van he and his colleagues were riding, said investigator PO3 Jun Mortel of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit.

Despite the efforts of doctors, Germinal died from a single stab wound in the abdomen at 5:20 a.m. Saturday, Mortel said.

Germinal was on board a Daihatsu van (PFK-317) with his friends when three men pelted their vehicle with stones about 2 a.m. at the corner of Boni Serrano and 20th avenues in Murphy, Quezon City.

Germinal's companions were identified as M/Sgt. Romeo Cabagbag, Sgt. A Rivera, S/Sgt. Gil Dragen, Sgt. Bienvenido Escabarte, and civilian Danilo Boo.

Mortel said Germinal got out of the van and confronted the stone throwers who ganged up on him. One of them pulled out a fan knife and stabbed Germinal in the abdomen, Mortel said.

The assault happened so quickly that Germinal's friends were not able to go after the suspects who escaped on foot, Mortel said.

He said Germinal was brought to the Camp Aguinaldo Station Hospital and was later transferred to the V. Luna Medical Center where the soldier died.

Germinal's body was taken to the Philippine National Police Crime Laboratory for an autopsy, Mortel added.

Young man hunted for rape of 4-year-old niece in QC

POLICE are hunting down a 19-year-old man for allegedly raping his 4-year-old niece on Aug. 31 in Quezon City.

The suspect, a resident of Barangay Central in Quezon City, faces the death penalty if found guilty of raping his niece, Kamuning police said yesterday.

The victim's 28-year-old mother told police she noticed something unusual in her daughter's genitals. When she asked her daughter what happened, the girl related what her uncle had done to her.

The mother said she brought her daughter to a hospital to make sure she has not been infected with any disease.

Police are waiting for the results of a medico-legal examination on the girl before filing a solid case against the suspect. *Philip C. Tubeza*

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For inquiries, interested parties may contact the PBAC Secretariat at tel. Nos. 929-60-11 to 19 loc. 275 (c/o Julie Mendoza).

The Bids and Awards Committee and the Institute reserve the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect thereto, accept bids as may be deemed advantageous thereto or postpone the bidding for whatever cause it may deem proper.

In case of failure, a re-bidding shall automatically be scheduled five (5) calendar days after the announcement of failed bidding at the same time and place as the first bidding.

(Sgd.) ALUMANDA M. DELA ROSA, Ph. D.
Acting Director

(PDI–Sept. 17, 2001)

Man beats up wife for intervening

A 45-YEAR-OLD woman was beaten up by her drunken husband after she intervened and caused him to lose in a fight in Antipolo City Saturday night.

Ma. Lourdes Pasilao filed a complaint against her husband, Edgar Pasilao, 32, before the Antipolo Police.

SPO4 Philip Gamboa said Edgar was drinking with his three friends in front of the couple's house about 11 p.m. on Saturday.

After finishing a bottle of brandy, the four men started arguing, which led to a brawl. Neighbor Harold de la Torre, who was one of the drinking men, reportedly threw the first punch and hit Pasilao. Ma. Lourdes came and held her husband's hands to pacify him, preventing him from returning the blows.

Police said Pasilao got so mad for having been beaten up that he in turn beat up his wife. He is now detained in an Antipolo police sub-station and is facing charges of physical injury. *Agnes Donato*

6 'drug' vans yield illegal lumber

POLICE on Thursday opened six container vans suspected of carrying illegal drugs and found that they were holding illegally cut and misdeclared lumber.

The shipment was confiscated by the Philippine National Police's Maritime Group, the Bureau of Customs and port authorities on Sept. 5 at Pier 4 of the North Harbor in Manila.

A day before, police received information that a shipment of illegally transported lumber from Cotabato would arrive on board MV Super Ferry 5 the next day. Police suspected that the shipment also included illegal drugs.

When the shipment arrived, it was immediately seized and transported to Pier 18. When representatives of the shipment consignee, identified as M.V. Lumber, did not appear after the prescribed 72 hours, the shipment was opened on orders of Chief Supt. Reinerio Albano, PNP Maritime Group director.

The contents were found to be illegally cut wood which the DENR has banned for cutting. *Alcuin Papa*

Ex-policeman, helper slain

By Christian V. Esguerra

A FORMER Manila policeman and a worker were killed, while three other men were injured in two incidents in Manila and Navotas yesterday morning.

Two unidentified men hacked and stabbed to death Ruben Villapa, 45, a former officer of the Western Police District and a resident of C.M. Recto Avenue in Binondo, Manila, police said.

Villapa was buying bread at a bakery near his home when two men, armed with a knife and a *kris*, attacked him from behind at 4 a.m., said investigator PO3 Paul Javier.

Villapa suffered a stab wound in the chest and a deep cut in the left arm, Javier said. He managed to go back to his apartment where he died.

His body was brought to the Sanctuary Funeral Homes.

In Navotas, a young man ran amuck, killed a worker, and stabbed three other people in a videoke bar on Dagat-Dagatan Avenue around 2 a.m.

Geo Estrada, 20, a stay-in truck helper at Bonanza Trucking on C-3 Road in Dagat-Dagatan, died of several stab wounds in the body while he was being rushed to the Tondo Medical Center, police said.

His companions, Domingo Golpe, 21, and his cousin Ronnie, 23, and George Absolon, 23, were rushed to the same hospital also due to stab wounds, police said.

They were drinking in the videoke bar when the unidentified suspect came out of the toilet and attacked them for no apparent reason, police said.

The suspect fled with his drinking mates.

National Power Corporation
INVITATION TO BID

September 3, 2001

The National Power Corporation (NPC) has obtained a loan from Kreditanstalt Fur Wiederaufbau (KfW) to finance the foreign exchange cost of various spare parts and equipment for various NPC Plants/Substations (KfW Batch 4 Rebidding) and intends to apply the proceeds of this loan to eligible payments under the contract, for which this "Invitation For Bids" is being issued. With this, NPC invites sealed bids from eligible firms that are domiciled in the Federal Republic of Germany (that conduct there a significant portion of their business, and whose goods and services for the programme originate chiefly in the Federal Republic of Germany) for items listed below.

Schedule	Qty	Description
4A-1	1-lot	Measuring Equipment, consisting of Flue gas analyzing module, O_2-analyzer, CO_2/CO-analyzer, NO-analyzer, portable SO_2-gas analyzing module, Fly ash measuring module and evaluation unit.
4A-4	2-sets	Air Compressor, 30 Bars, 460 volts, 60 Hz

A complete set of Tender documents shall be available for issuance at the Office of the Bids & Contracts Management Department, 2nd Floor, Building II, National Power Corporation, cor. Quezon Avenue & Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City (Zip Code: 1104) Philippines starting **September 17, 2001** upon submission of a Letter of Intent and upon payment of a registration fee of ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000.00).

A Pre-Bid Conference will be conducted on **September 28, 2001** at 2:00 PM at the Solarium Conference Room, NPC-OBC, Diliman, Quezon City.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Office of the Bids & Contracts Management Dept. (BCMD) Telefax No. 921-23-08.

Deadline for submission of accomplished bids shall be not later than 9:00 AM of **October 17, 2001.**

NPC reserves the right to reject any application or all bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose bid is most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) A. T. CORPUZ
Chairman
Contracts Award Committee

(PDI–Sept. 15, 17 & 27, 2001)

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Texters vow to 'fight it out'

By Abigail L. Ho

CELLULAR phone users will not give up without a fight.

After the Quezon City Regional Trial Court on Friday lifted the 20-day temporary restraining order it granted Philippine League for Democratic Telecommunications Inc. (PLDTI) on Aug. 31, the complainants said they were contemplating filing another case.

Rod Domingo Jr., PLDTI's legal counsel, yesterday told the INQUIRER the group is thinking of filing criminal charges against officials of the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) and cellular giants Globe Telecom Inc., Smart Communications Inc. and their subsidiaries.

"The NTC gave the telcos (telecommunications companies) undue advantage when they engaged in a closed-door meeting without inviting us," Domingo said. "The NTC should have invited both sides, not only the telcos."

NTC chief Eliseo Rio Jr. held a closed-door meeting on Aug. 24 with officials of Globe, Smart and their subsidiaries Isla Communications Co. Inc. and Pilipino Telephone Corp.

In an Aug. 27 interview, Transportation and Communications Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez said consumer groups should have been included in the meeting.

Domingo, however, said the NTC did not invite any consumer group to the meeting.

PLDTI then named the NTC as one of the defendants in a class suit it filed on Aug. 29. Judge Modesto Juanson dismissed this case Friday and said the court had no jurisdiction over the case.

The NTC earlier said it also had no jurisdiction over the case because text messaging was a deregulated service. However, Rio said PLDTI should have first gone to the NTC before taking its case to the court.

The NTC was supposed to announce the results of its investigations on Sept. 10, but it was prevented from doing so by the TRO that was still in effect then.

Alvarez, however, yesterday said in a phone interview that the NTC found no evidence of collusion among the cellular giants.

"But they will be studying another angle, something about pricing," he said.

A source said the NTC would be investigating the possibility of a price distortion that might result from the reductions in free text.

Another group of consumers will file today at the NTC a petition for a TRO to prevent the cellular giants from continuing its implementation of the text slash.

A BEACH OF THEIR OWN

It has flotsam instead of fine sand and its waters are slick with oil and other foulness, but it is all their own on this weekend morning for this young father and his children who are swimming in Manila Bay near the United States Embassy on Roxas Boulevard. EDWIN BACASMAS

Conservationists now want San Sebastian altar parts restored

By Jerome Aning

MANILA conservationists are urging the curate of the San Sebastian Basilica in Manila to return the two silver-plated steps that were removed when the altar of the steel church were repaired last April.

Fr. Samson Silloriquez, O.A.R., said the steps were removed in early April after one of his maintenance workers discovered that they were not permanently attached to the altar and were apparently late additions to the structure.

The priest said what was more important than the silver steps were the carvings behind it of three angels that resembled figures in the original pulpit.

The National Historical Institute wrote Father Silloriquez on Aug. 9 ordering him to return the steps. The priest replied eight days later, insisting that what he had done actually restored the altar's original feature.

The modifications were disclosed to the NHI by conservationist and historical researcher Tina Testa, who provided the INQUIRER with documents on the controversy.

Testa said that in conducting the maintenance work, the priest violated Presidential Decree No. 1505 which prohibits anyone from modifying, altering, repairing or destroying the original features of a national shrine, monument, landmark and other historical edifices without written permission from the NHI chair.

NHI architect Reynaldo Inovero said the panels of angels behind the silver steps were not seen during a replating job in 1988. He said he has also found out that the steps were donated in 1934.

The Recollect priest acknowledged that he did not observe the necessary formality in doing the maintenance work, saying he thought he was given implicit permission to do so during a meeting with Inovero.

The curate also stuck to his workers' account and expressed disappointment that he is now accused of lying.

"To tell lies or invent stories just to support my statement is so unbecoming for my state of life," Father Silloriquez said in his Aug. 17 letter to Inovero.

"We did not mean to cast aspersions on you as a person or as a priest," replied the architect in an Aug. 24 letter. "Our only intention is to see that the laws are followed."

The 110-year-old San Sebastian Church, reputedly the world's only existing all-steel church, is a historical landmark. The pre-fabricated steel parts—the two spires, façade and stretches of the church's central nave—were all done in Belgium and believed to have been designed by Gustave Eiffel.

MMDA teams to carry out anti-littering drive

By Nelson F. Flores

METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority Chair Benjamin Abalos warned against the indiscriminate throwing of litter in Metro Manila, saying that the MMDA has launched an intensified anti-littering campaign.

Abalos said MMDA monitoring teams were organized and sent out in the streets to apprehend violators of the anti-littering law. He said the fines would be imposed on violators.

He explained that the anti-littering campaign is a component of the overall MMDA drive to clean Metro Manila. He added that the volume of trash due to littering is significant and adds enormous amounts of waste to the 6,000 tons of garbage produced daily by Metro Manila.

Abalos also blamed agitators for the adverse public reaction to the creation and operation of the sanitary landfill in Rodriguez, Rizal.

He said professional rabble-rousers are mostly behind the misinformation about the RSL. He accused these agitators of wanting to destroy the project to further their interest.

Abalos also bared plans by a non-government organization based in Antique province to embarrass the MMDA and prevent the revival plans to dump garbage on Semirara Island. He said key members of this organization are currently in Metro Manila getting ready to execute their plans, which include the dumping of huge volumes of garbage in the Pasig River.

"I think they were fed the wrong information that we want to revive the Semirara dumpsite," Abalos said.

He stressed that the MMDA has no such plans although the agency is currently studying other options on how to deal with the garbage problem.

He urged environmentalists to participate in the planning and construction of the Rodriguez Sanitary Landfill (RSL) to ensure its compliance with international sanitary and environmental standards. He said their active participation in the development and operation of the RSL is the only way to ensure the success of the project and quell any adverse reaction.

He said a renowned geologist from the University of the Philippines has expressed interest in joining and helping the MMDA in building the landfill.

15 hours without water

NINE areas under Maynilad Water Services Inc. and three under Manila Water Co. in Commonwealth, Quezon City will experience a 15-hour water service interruption from 1 p.m. today, Sept. 17, until 4 a.m. tomorrow.

To be rendered waterless under Maynilad are the areas along Commonwealth Avenue from Commonwealth Heights to Zuzuaregui Street, Samonte Area, Capitol Estate 1, barangays Batasan Hills, Filinvest 1 and 2 and Payatas Violago Subdivision, and Dona Juana, Gilarme, and Manggahan in Holy Spirit.

The areas affected under MWCI are Capitol Drive, and Liwanag and Feria streets. Don Fernando Heights, Don Antonio Heights, Prater Subdivision, Dona Isidora Subdivision, and Veterans Village in Holy Spirit will have low pressure to no water.

Residents may call Maynilad Hotline 1626 for the water rationing schedule.

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The Metro Manila garbage situation: a tragicomedy

By Leonarda N. Camacho

THE METRO Manila garbage situation is tragic and comic at the same time.

Tragic, because while there is an existing viable resource recovery program run by volunteers, the national and local governments are either ignorant of it, or have a mindset.

Tragic, because garbage is strewn around in streets, rivers, canals and empty lots. And because Metro Manila is dirty, the economy continues to be in the dumps.

Remember the universal law "cleanliness is next to godliness"? No matter how brilliant the finance secretary is, the universal law prevails.

Tragic, because the national government and the private sector import billions of dollars worth of medicines yearly to treat garbage-related diseases caused by the indiscriminate dumping of garbage.

Worse, consider the man-hours lost when people get sick. And worst, think of the newly employed workers scavenging at "Smokey Mountains" at the Las Piñas Transfer Station, in Manggahan, Pasig and in Guadalupe Nuevo, Makati who are exposed to deadly germs, even with their face masks and hand gloves.

Tragic, because the national government is poised to approve a contract for a "state-of-the-art" sanitary landfill which will either bale and bury the garbage or convert it into energy.

Tragic, because for every ton of used paper we do not return to the paper mills, 17 trees must be cut in the forest.

Tragic, because oil is dwindling in the oceans and seas, and we will bury plastics.

Tragic, because minerals, iron ore and silica are dwindling, too, in the mountains and beaches, and we will bury products made of them—tin cans, metals, glass bottles. The country's five glass factories and five steel mills urgently need these for secondary materials.

Tragic, because we can save millions of dollars spent in the importation of virgin raw materials while 1.5 million households recklessly throw away used paper, plastics, bottles and cans.

The comedy

The funny part—there are many funny parts—is that while the Senate and the House of Representatives passed the Solid Waste Management Law (which we initiated several years back), right in their own backyards exist mini Payatas dumps. Behind the Congress complex in Quezon City and beside the Senate building in Pasay City are cute dumpsites.

And believe it or not, the University of the Philippines in Diliman has a smoking, filthy dumpsite hidden in the sprawling complex.

And funnier still, six months after the garbage law was passed, the garbage in the streets, canals and rivers began to increase by leaps and bounds. And the 17 mayors of Metro Manila created their respective Payatas dumps.

Now seriously

Before anything else, the national and local government must join hands immediately to conduct a massive information campaign through media and the barangay to tell the people the following.

Households must have three containers in the kitchen.

1. An empty ice cream or cooking oil can. Only food wastes must be placed here. The local government must collect these three times a week and compost the materials together with animal and garden wastes. Households with available space must not give these organic wastes to the garbage trucks. They must bury them or convert them into soil conditioner.

2. A sack, *bayong* or empty cardboard box. All kinds of scrap or waste paper (excluding carbon paper, wax paper, aluminum foil and shiny gift wrapping paper); plastics, soft and hard (except polystyrene or styrofoam, tetrapack and doy pack used for fruit drinks and milk); tin cans (except paint cans), glass and plastic bottles, and broken bottles.

Households must not give these to the garbage trucks. They must sell these to the nearest junk shop. Or they may call the Metro Manila Federation of Environment Cooperatives at 410-0383 for information on the junk shops located in their city or town.

The government may pick these up on a designated day of the week and sell them to the paper mills, plastic factories, glass factories and steel mills.

3. Back trash bag. Place only residuals like styrofoam, tetrapack, doy pack, disposable sanitary napkins and diapers, rags, hazardous household wastes like cotton, bandages, etc., pentel and ball pens, flashlight and toy batteries, paint cans, etc.

The local government should collect these in a separate truck three times a week and convert these into hollow blocks through the hydromex machine, a model of which is at the grounds of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources on Visayas Avenue in Quezon City. A model of a shredder-composter machine is also there.

Hospital wastes

There is an existing local technology that uses locally made equipment. The machine is called hydromed. The principle is the same as in the hydromex machine, except that the collection from the 147 hospitals and clinics is different.

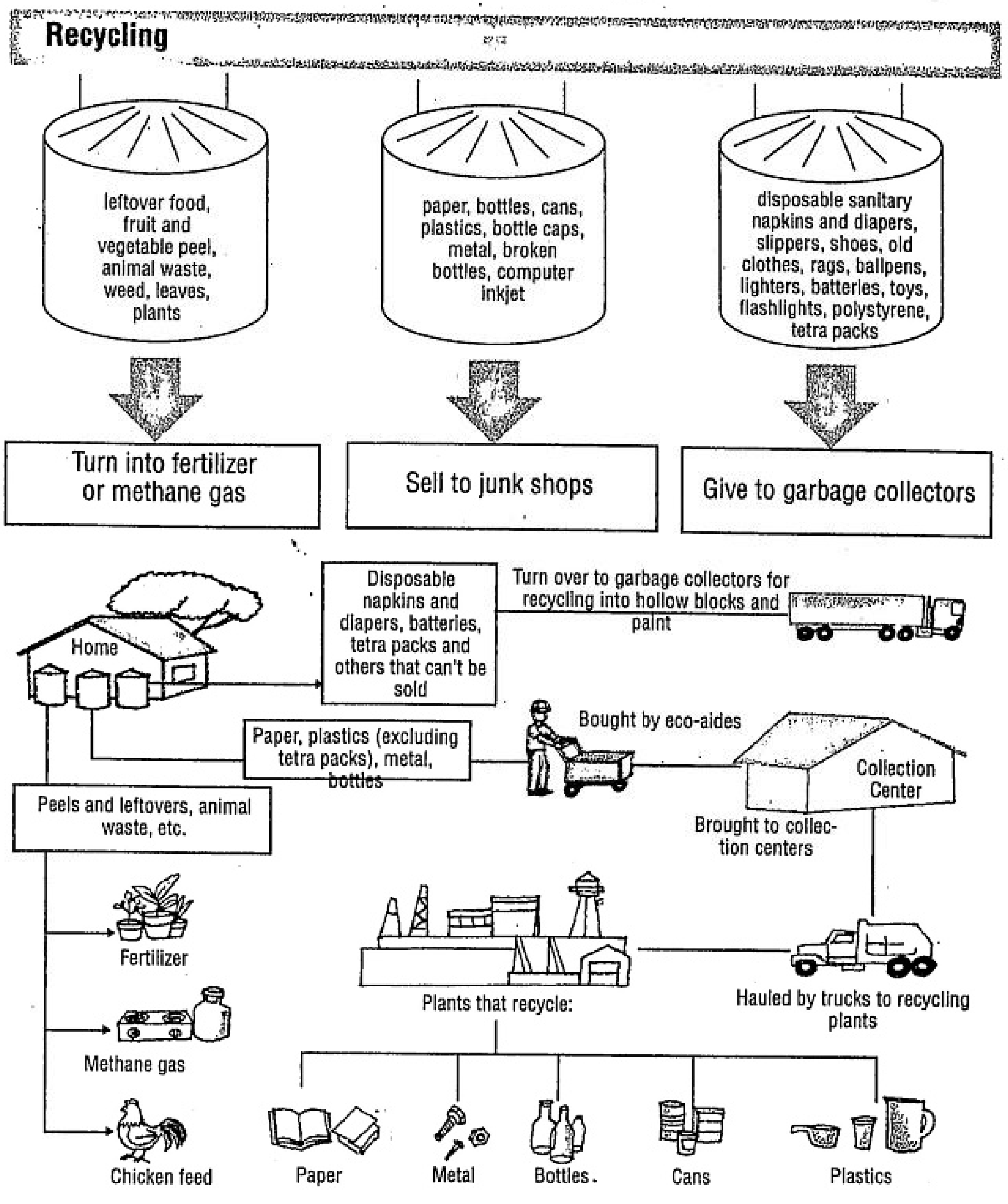
All hospitals and clinics will be provided with sealed plastic bags which will be collected by sealed vans and brought to the sealed building that contains the machine that will shred and detoxify the materials and convert them into hollow blocks and paints.

This technology is so simple and inexpensive and patented by a Filipino inventor that it is staggering to the mind.

Tires, industrial wastes

To save government expenditures on road repairs, the 300,000 unusable tires generated annually must be shredded and mixed with asphalt for road-laying.

It would be great if the Department of Public Works and Highways took the initiative to build a tire shredder at its compound in Quezon City.


Recycling
leftover food, fruit and vegetable peel, animal waste, weed, leaves, plants
paper, bottles, cans, plastics, bottle caps, metal, broken bottles, computer inkjet
disposable sanitary napkins and diapers, slippers, shoes, old clothes, rags, ballpens, lighters, batteries, toys, flashlights, polystyrene, tetra packs
Turn into fertilizer or methane gas
Sell to junk shops
Give to garbage collectors
Home
Disposable napkins and diapers, batteries, tetra packs and others that can't be sold
Turn over to garbage collectors for recycling into hollow blocks and paint
Paper, plastics (excluding tetra packs), metal, bottles
Bought by eco-aides
Collection Center
Brought to collection centers
Peels and leftovers, animal waste, etc.
Fertilizer
Methane gas
Chicken feed
Plants that recycle:
Hauled by trucks to recycling plants
Paper
Metal
Bottles.
Cans
Plastics

There is an existing industrial waste exchange program initiated by the Philippine Business and Environment. Some 400 industries are already exchanging wastes.

The program aims to cover all industries and industrial parks. All wastes that cannot be exchanged can be treated in the hydromex machine.

Let us stop this tragicomedy thing and get down to the business resource recovery for a clean and wholesome environment and a prosperous economy!

(The author is the executive vice president of Metro Manila Linis-Ganda).

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7	MANO MANO 2
8	SCARY MOVIE 2

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2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
5	KNIGHT'S TALE
6	MANO MANO 2
7	RUSH HOUR 2
8	CROCODILE 2
9	A.I.
10	SHREK

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9358749

1	CROCODILE 2
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	A.I.
4	KIGHT'S TALE
5	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES
8	BANYO QUEEN
9	SCARY MOVIE 2
10	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
11	SHREK
12	MANO MANO 2

SM CITY MANILA 5236249

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	ENEMY AT THE GATES
3	CROCODILE 2
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	RUSH HOUR 2
6	A.I.
7	MANO MANO 2
8	SHREK
9	BANYO QUEEN
10	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
11	A.I.
12	KNIGHT'S TALE

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1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES
5	SCARY MOVIE 2
6	SHREK
7	CROCODILE 2
8	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
9	BANYO QUEEN
10	A.I.
11	MANO MANO 2
12	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH

SM TUTUBAN 2514302

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	SCARY MOVIE 2
4	BANYO QUEEN

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SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9265452

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4	MANO MANO 2
5	SCARY MOVIE 2
6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
7	A.I.
8	KNIGHT'S TALE
9	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
10	CROCODILE 2
11	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
12	SHREK

SM SOUTHMALL 8066888

1	A.I.
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
5	CROCODILE 2
6	RUSH HOUR 2
7	BANYO QUEEN
8	ENEMY AT THE GATES
9	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
10	MANO MANO 2

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1	MANO MANO 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	KNIGHT'S TALE

SM CEBU 2313878

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	A.I.
3	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
4	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
5	SEX MEDUSA
6	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
7	SCARY MOVIE 2

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1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
2	CLOSED
3	RUSH HOUR 2
4	CRAZY BEAUTIFUL
5	A.I.
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	CLOSED
8	ANIMAL

SM PAMPANGA 7128015

1	A.I.
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	RUSH HOUR 2
4	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
5	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
6	BANYO QUEEN

SM SUCAT 8094875

1	SCARY MOVIE 2
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	BANYO QUEEN

SM DAVAO

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2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES

GLORIETTA 4

1	RUSH HOUR 2 In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2	A KNIGHT'S TALE In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	SCARY MOVIE 2 THX In DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	THREE SEASONS (Phil. Premiere) In DTS DIGITAL SOUND Art Film
5	XIU XIU: THE SENT DOWN GIRL In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE In DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

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1	A KNIGHT'S TALE In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2	SCARY MOVIE 2 In SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
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2	SCARY MOVIE 2 In DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	RUSH HOUR 2 In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

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Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
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1 (SDS)	SHREK
2 (SDDS)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4 GOLD (DTS)	A.I.
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
6 GOLD (SDDS)	RUSH HOUR 2
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
8	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
9	BANYO QUEEN
10	MANO MANO 2

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	A.I.
2	
3 (DTS)	
4	
5	
6 (DTS)	

Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
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1 (DOLBY)	KNIGHT'S TALE
2 (DTS)	CROCODILE 2
3	BANYO QUEEN

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 831.6603

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	A.I.
3	MANO MANO 2

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	MANO MANO 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	KNIGHT'S TALE
5	A.I.

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001

1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
2	BUKAS MAY LIGAYA
3	MANO MANO 2
4	BANYO QUEEN
5	SCARY MOVIE 2
6	KNIGHT'S TALE
7	RESERVE
8	RESERVE

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) Tel. 7053152 - 55

ENEMY AT THE GATES

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
2	PLANET OF THE APES

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	MANO MANO 2
3	PRIVATE TEACHER

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	SYOTA NG BAYAN
A	HOT LOVER

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	MANO MANO 2
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	BANYO QUEEN
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	RUSH HOUR 2
5	A.I.
6	MANO MANO 2
7 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
8 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
9 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	BANYO QUEEN

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	MANO MANO 2
4 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
5	BANYO QUEEN
6 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
7 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
8	RUSH HOUR 2
9	A.I.

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	MANO MANO 2
4	RUSH HOUR 2
5 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
6	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
7 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
8	A.I.

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	MANO MANO 2
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	BANYO QUEEN

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	BANYO QUEEN

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	MAGENTA
Lords	NIGHT JOB
Jennet	RESERVE

THE MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
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1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	RESERVE
4	MANO MANO 2

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	MANO MANO 2

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	BANYO QUEEN
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4	MANO MANO 2
5	KNIGHT'S TALE

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	MANO MANO 2
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Baclaran LRT
LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	MANO MANO 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	RESERVE

Berma
tel 879-2029 or 30

1	MANO MANO 2
2	BANYO QUEEN

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	
3	
4	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	SCARY MOVIE 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2 (DTS)	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DOLBY)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) Tel. (049) 411-1146

1	BANYO QUEEN
2 (DOLBY)	KNIGHT'S TALE
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2

Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	NAKED EYE
3	BANYO QUEEN
4 (DTS)	MANO MANO 2

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANINN
3	SHREK

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	BANYO QUEEN
2 (DTS)	

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	BANYO QUEEN

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	CROCODILE 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
2	A.I.
3	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4	SHREK

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1	SCARY MOVIE 2
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	BANYO QUEEN
4	A.I.

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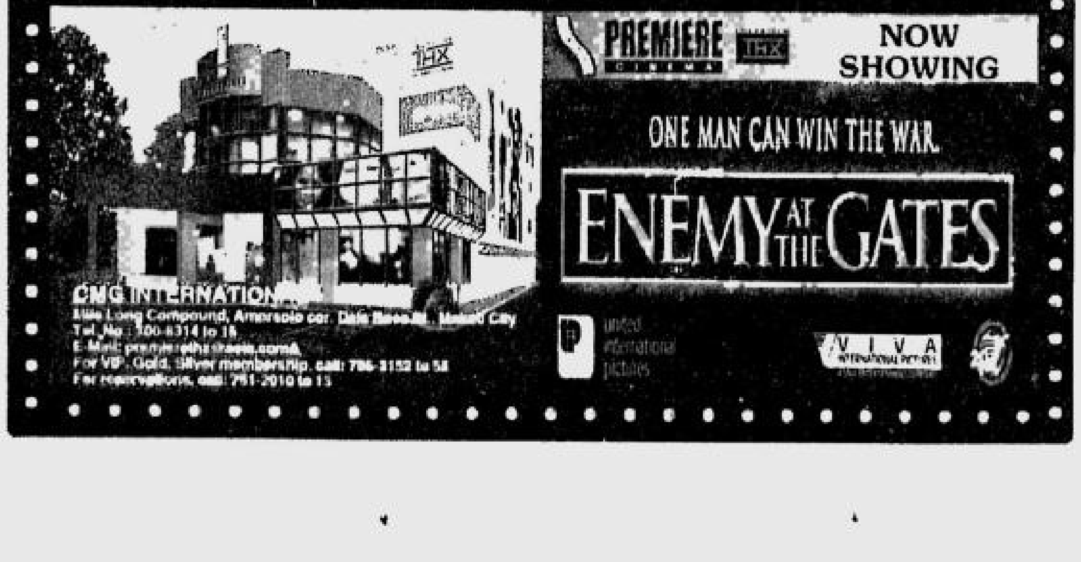

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2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	BANYO QUEEN
6	RUSH HOUR 2
7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
8	CROCODILE 2
9	A.I.
10	SHREK

ERMITA 536-7809 TO 12

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	CROCODILE 2
4	A.I.
5	BANYO QUEEN
6	SCARY MOVIE 2
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES

NOVALICHES 935-3229 to 31

1	MANO MANO 2
2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
3	RESERVE
4	A KNIGHT'S TALE
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES
8	A.I.

IMUS (046) 471-8188

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	BANYO QUEEN
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES
5	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
6	MANO MANO 2

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453

1	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	ANIMAL
4	SHREK
5	PLANET OF THE APES
6	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

SOON TO OPEN
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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	RUSH HOUR 2
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	BANYO QUEEN
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	MANO MANO 2
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	AMORSEKO / KAMASUTRA 2001
ODEON	BANYO QUEEN
ODEON-2	CROCODILE 2
ROBEN	MANO MANO 2
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	TOM RAIDER / ALONG CAME A SPIDER
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	TOMB RAIDERS / GET CARTER
QUEZON-1	MANO MANO 2
REMAR	MANO MANO 2
REMAR-2	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	BANYO QUEEN
B	MANO MANO 2
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	ASIAN CHILDREN ARTS FESTIVAL
CINEMA-2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
CINEMA-2	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
CINEMA-3	RUSH HOUR 2
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	A.I.
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	PLANET OF THE APES
CINEMA-6	SEX EDUCATION
CINEMA-7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
CINEMA-8	KISS OF THE DRAGON
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	A.I.
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RUSH HOUR 2
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	A.I.
CINEMA-12	CROCODILE 2
CINEMA-14	SHREK
CINEMA-15	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
CINEMA-2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CINEMA-3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
CINEMA-4	SCARY MOVIE 2
CINEMA-5	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CINEMA-6	SHREK
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	RESERVE
CINEMA-2	RESERVE
CINEMA-4	RESERVE
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	WINASAK NA PANGARAP
CINEMA-2	STONE
CINEMA-4	BOBOT

Young stars . . .

(From page A31)

inept at expressing their feelings that they ended up constantly getting on each other's bad side, instead.

Things came to a head when Johnny's mother (**Gloria Romero**) got drunk and lost the gym in a bet, and it went to Piolo's scheming uncle (**Vic Vargas**).

When Johnny returned from abroad, his wife (**Gloria Diaz**) and other loved ones kept the loss a secret from him. Not knowing any better, Johnny proceeded to train his son for a big fight, not knowing that the young man (**Jeffrey Quizon**) had his own secret: he was a flaming fairy.

Judy Ann saw that her father's dreams were going to end up in shambles, so she decided to take on the fight herself. She got Piolo to train her, after promising to do practically anything for him. After razzing her for a time, Piolo confessed his true feelings for Judy Ann, and they finally became a romantic item, resulting in a number of syrupy "for the fans" scenes that distended the movie and derailed its focused progression.

But they still had to contend with the greedy schemes of Piolo's uncle, and Judy Ann still had a big bout to face before the movie's other main conflicts could be resolved.

"Bakit 'Di Totohanin" has a relatively eventful, if sometimes unfocused, plot. And Judy Ann's hard work to look credible as a boxer has paid off in the viewing public's appreciative reaction to the movie.

Delgado, Romero and Diaz turn in spirited and felt performances that provide good support to the film's young leads. Quizon is similarly lively, but he goes overboard with his gay antics. Somebody should really teach him how to tell when he's being too florid for everyone's good.

Judy Ann should also review her performance in this film to spot her acting tics and mannerisms that she should promptly eliminate from her portrayals in her succeeding movies.

It looks to us that she's been making too many movies and has gotten too tired to really refine her characterizations. Thus, she resorts to "entertaining" but shallow mannerisms that appear and reappear in many of her films.

These kneejerk tics may enable her to swiftly go from one project to another, but they have eroded her good reputation as an actress. If she doesn't want her career to eventually suffer from the onus of diminishing returns, she *must* do more responsible and creative work as an actress.

45 awards

Jolina Magdangal has been given two more awards, to raise to 45 the total number of honors she has received thus far in her career.

She was recently presented a Quintuple Platinum Award for the phenomenal success of her self-titled album, "Jolina," an OPM bestseller. The album's two career singles, "Laging Tapat" and "Paper Roses," ruled the radio pop charts for many weeks.

Jolina won another Quintum Platinum Award for another album, "Jolina, On Memory Lane." Its carrier single, "Crying Time," was also a radio chart-topper for six weeks.

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Julie Andrews, a well-done steak and a facial

KRIS AND TELL

Kris Aquino

I CAUGHT the sneak preview of "The Princess Diaries" last Monday. It's a light, enjoyable film that offers a reprieve from all the other effects-laden, complicatedly plotted films that Hollywood has recently been offering us.

Garry Marshall, who also directed "Pretty Woman," tried to do for **Anne Hathaway** what he did for **Julia Roberts**. Although Hathaway is charming as Princess Mia, a star with Julia's luminosity comes along just once in our lifetime.

Julie Andrews as the queen is perfectly regal yet still as lovable as a grandmother. For those of us who first fell in love with her through "betamax" viewings of "The Sound of Music," it was great to see Andrews healthy (she had throat surgery a couple of years back which, if subsequent news coverage is to be believed, took away her ability to sing) and in feature films again.

Prospero's

I saw this movie at Greenbelt with my friends **Keren** and **Popoy**. Before catching the last full show, we had dinner at Prospero's in the restaurant row on Greenbelt's ground floor. I've tried only the Gloria Maris there in the past and Keren suggested I try Prospero's since, like him, I'm really a dedicated meat eater. From his numerous meals there he assured me that Prospero's has a special way with their tenderloin.

I know it's much healthier to eat more fish, but I really crave for beef, pork and lamb chops. I prefer to have sirloin, rib-eye or porterhouse cuts since they're normally juicier and tastier than tenderloin.

Since Keren and I split our pasta and our tenderloin, I had to give in to his desire to have the beef served very well-done. I prefer my beef just between medium and medium-well, but since he was the hungrier one and he really can't eat his meat with even just a hint of redness, Keren's preferred done-ness won out.

The tenderloin arrived on a bed of mashed potatoes. It was well done, but surprisingly not dried out. It was well seasoned without being salty, and still tender to the bite.

The best part was that it was very moderately priced. The quality of the meat and the presentation would've matched whatever local 5-star hotel could've come up with, at roughly one-fourth the cost. Excellent value for money, and the nook where the restaurant is located is well lighted without being harsh. It is charmingly decorated, welcoming, and is an excellent venue for a relaxed dinner before a flick or a concert.

Hi-tech facial

In times of stress, apart from eating, nothing beats a facial. Since I wear heavy make-up on a daily basis, I really need to clean my face thoroughly. Pores can get very clogged, and a professional should take care of the pricking and extracting of blackheads, whiteheads and the occasional pimple.

Dr. **Vicky Belo** just last month opened her Quezon City branch, on Tomas Morato very near the Timog Circle. I taped a feature in her Makati branch a couple of months back and I got to see up close how hi-tech her Obagi oxygenation facial was and so I eagerly awaited the opening of her QC clinic because of its proximity to my work and my place of residence.

The new clinic stays open until 8 p.m., which makes it perfect for those who want to have a facial or body scrub before retiring for the night.

Chen Chen, a registered nurse, was my facialist on my two visits. On my first visit she started off by washing my face with the Obagi cleansing foam, followed by a honey-almond scrub.

On my second visit, instead of the scrub, she applied a glycolic solution on my problem areas to help soften and speed up the extraction of my remaining blackheads and my two pimples that suddenly chose to pop out.

Hygiene and training

After the scrubbing or glycolic application, there's the "vacuuming" of the face again to help loosen the blackheads and whiteheads. Steaming and extraction using their "instruments of torture" comes next.

The best argument for having your facial done under the care of a dermatologist is that you're sure of their hygienic measures and the thorough training of the staff.

This part is the only painful part. Chen Chen was already feeling guilty that my eyes kept tearing because of my discomfort. I told her not to worry since I have a low pain threshold and she should continue with her work. At last the extraction was over!

Time to close the pores with this electronic wand that zaps the skin. The sound it makes is similar to the sound made by those electric mosquito traps that have a purplish white light.

After the suffering comes the face contouring massage, which is pure bliss. The face is again washed to remove the oil used in the massage. Lastly, a blend of vitamins A and C is applied on the face with an oxygen tank.

New believer

You'll need to set aside a good two hours for the whole procedure and you're constantly reminded to avoid washing your face for a minimum of eight hours to make sure that your skin gets to drink in all that has been applied.

I was a bit scared seeing my face after the facial because there were areas, which seemed to have reacted and they were a bit reddish and elevated. But a couple of days after, I did notice that my skin was firmer and clearer and my dry spots were eliminated. My makeup artist **Bambbi Fuentes** commented that when he was putting on my concealer and foundation, my skin felt very smooth to his touch.

All in all, I'm now a believer in this new type of facial. It's recommended once a month for people who just want a more radiant and clearer skin, and every other week for those with acne problems and heavily clogged pores.

Young stars work hard for the money

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

AFTER a couple of starrers that did poorly at the box office, **Judy Ann Santos** bounces back with "Bakit 'Di Totohanin," her first movie with **Piolo Pascual**. The film has clicked with viewers because of its novel plot premise, its young leads' hard work, some interesting supporting performances, and high "kilig value."

In the film Judy Ann's father (**Johnny Delgado**) owns a gym for boxers and used to train a stable of young pugilists. Piolo was Johnny's best bet to make it big as a boxer, but he threw a fight early in his career, and this disheartened Johnny so much that he decided to stop training boxers and just work abroad as a cook.

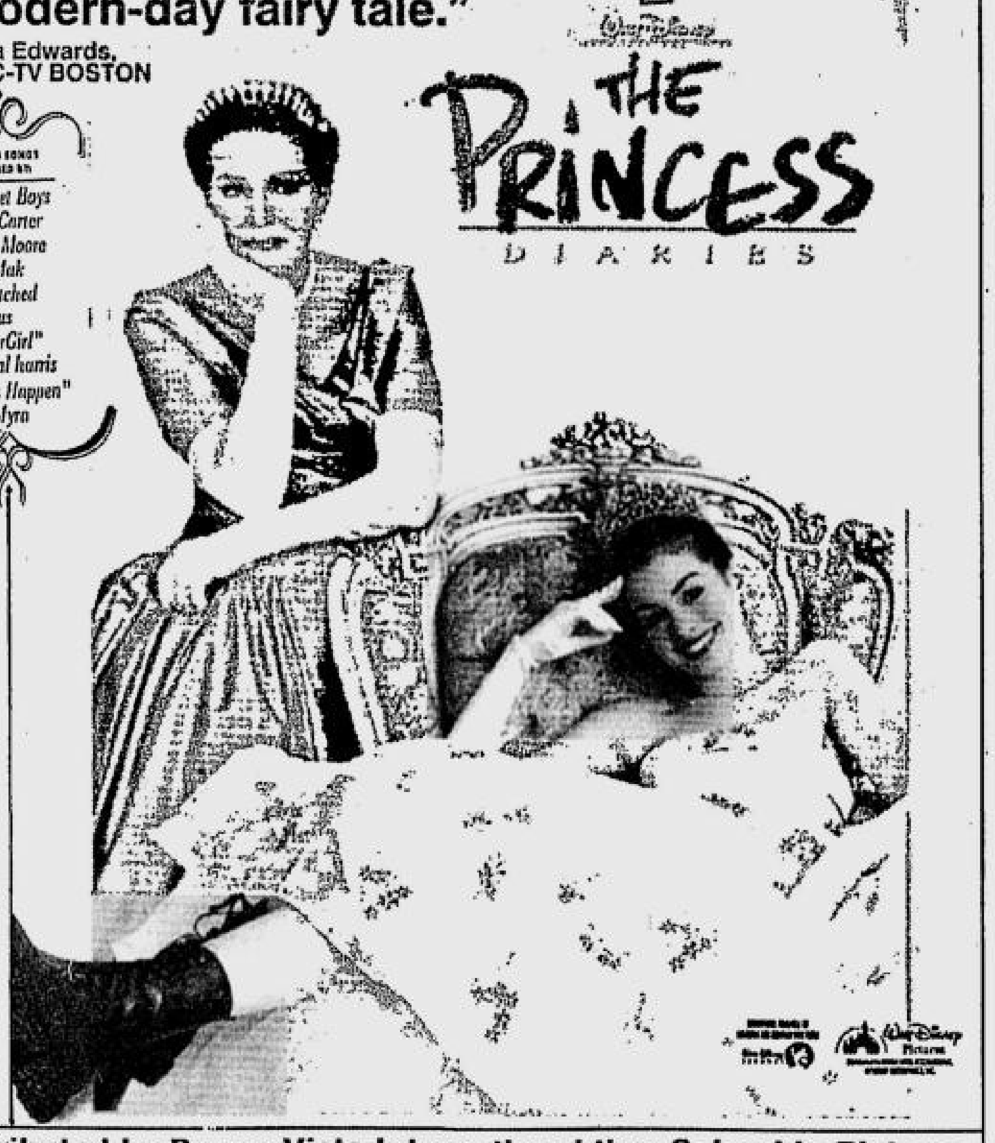
All this while, Piolo and Judy Ann had secret crushes on each other, but they were so

YOUNG/ A30

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - P 13 1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40	A KNIGHT'S TALE - P 13 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10	ENEMY AT THE GATES - R 18 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
SCARY MOVIE 2 - R 18 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50	A KNIGHT'S TALE - P 13 10:50, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30	SHREK - GP 12:00, 2:00, 4:00

Matinee: P80, Mon.-Fri, 11:10 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.



WITNESS "THE COOLEST ROYAL TRANSFORMATION"
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MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED
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Mandy Moore
BBMak
B*Witched
plus
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"Miracles Happen" by Myra
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

OPENS SEPT. 9 (WEDNESDAY)
MTRCB RATING ▶ R RESTRICTED | STRICTLY FOR ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted
RENZO CRUZ and LEANDRO BALDEMOR
featuring PYKE MONTEVERO
INA RAYMUNDO in
Burlesk Queen NGAYON
RE - ISSUE
RICKY BELMONTE · JEAN SABURIT · TERESA LOYZAGA and ROY RODRIGO
ALVIN ANSON · MARITA ZOBEL · LLOYD ROBINSON · BRYAN HOMECILLO · ENRICO CONTRERAS
with CAMILLE ROXAS and ALMA SORIANO
Photographed by ROMY VITUG (f.a.s.)
A Film by JOSE N. CARREON
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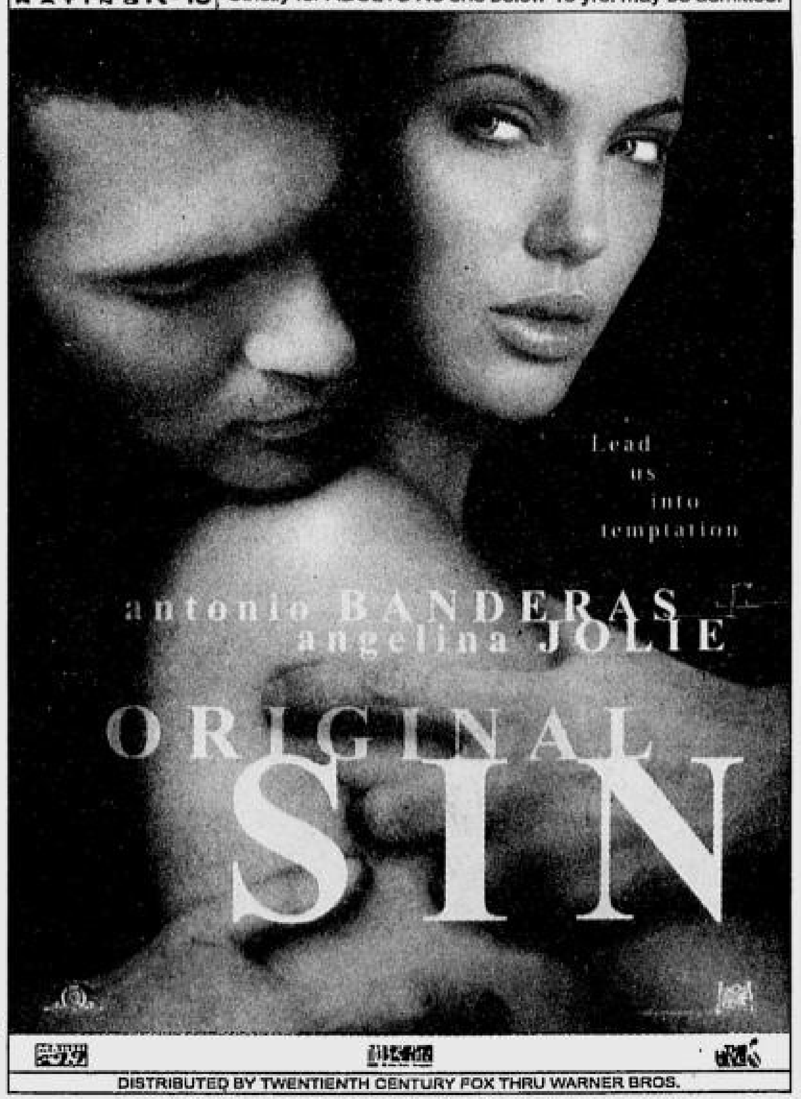

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Lead us into temptation
antonio BANDERAS angelina JOLIE
ORIGINAL SIN
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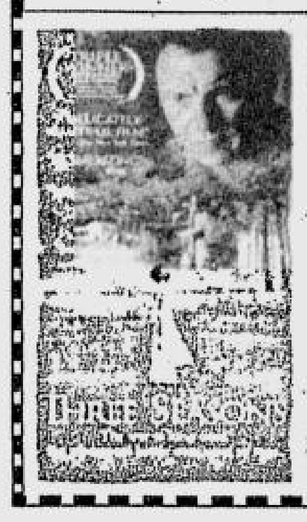

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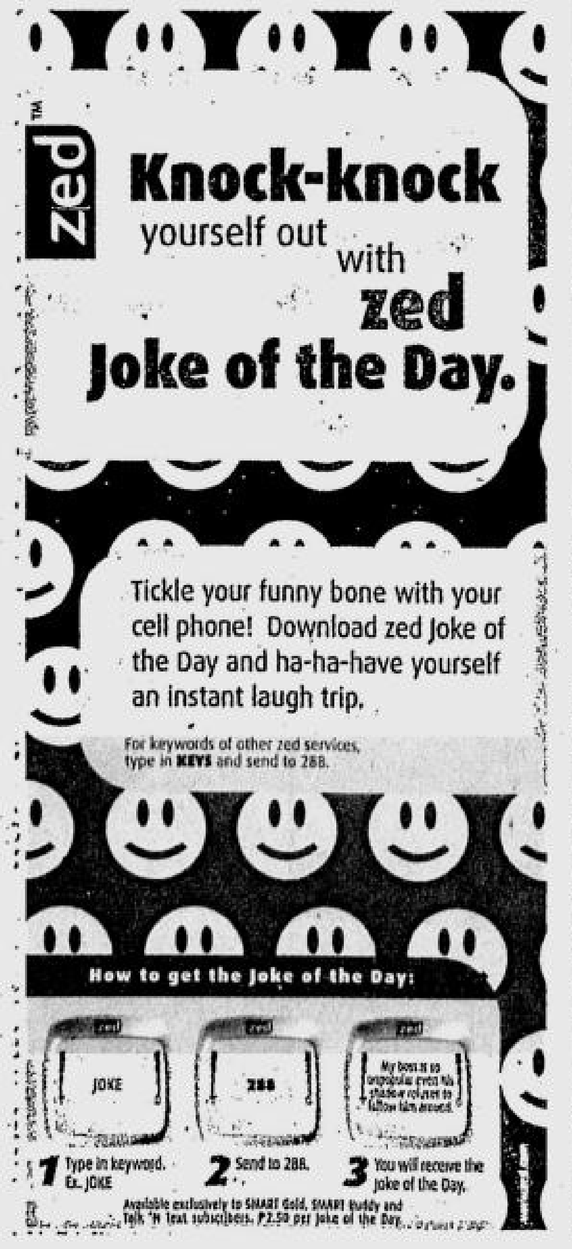
Cinematography Award: Dramatic & Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic
THREE SEASONS
Starring: Harvey Keitel, Lola Al Guimond, Don Duong & Nguyen Ngoc Hiep
Three Seasons tells three tangentially related stories: a romance between a forward-thinking prostitute and a cyclo driver; a street kid who loses his case of cheap trinkets; and a student of a reclusive teacher/poet who has lost his fingers to leprosy. Each of the stories is quite simple, but together they create a complex, layered experience of a country simultaneously caught up in its own past, present and future.
Vietnamese-American Bui's film has the distinction of being the first American production to shoot in Vietnam since the War. A cinematic poem that works more as a reflective mood piece than a traditional story. Bui's lyrical script and Ronzler's magical camera work combine to create an original, lasting motion picture.
Language: Vietnamese w/ English sub-titles



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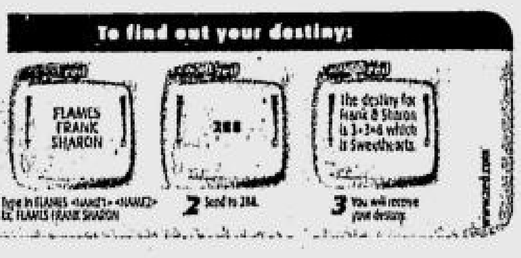

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B1
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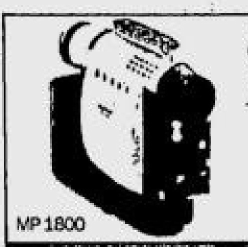

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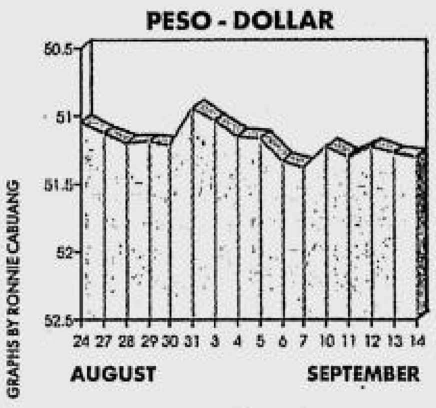

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As of 5 p.m., Sept. 14, 2001

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As of 5 p.m., Sept. 14, 2001

GOLD:$283.7/ 284.75

per ounce Hong Kong, Sept. 14, 2001

Stocks seen down

LOCAL stock prices will likely fall further this week due to the uncertainty over the terror attacks that claimed thousands of lives in the United States, analysts said Friday.

The benchmark composite index of the Philippine Stock Exchange fell 60.93 points or 4.7 percent over the week to end Friday at 1,236.42 after the attacks on New York and Washington on Tuesday.

"The market will fall further to below 1,200," predicted Henry Ong of KGI Securities Inc.

"I think any strength would be temporary and an opportunity for investors to unload blue chips," Ong added.

AFP

BY RONNEL W. DOMINGO

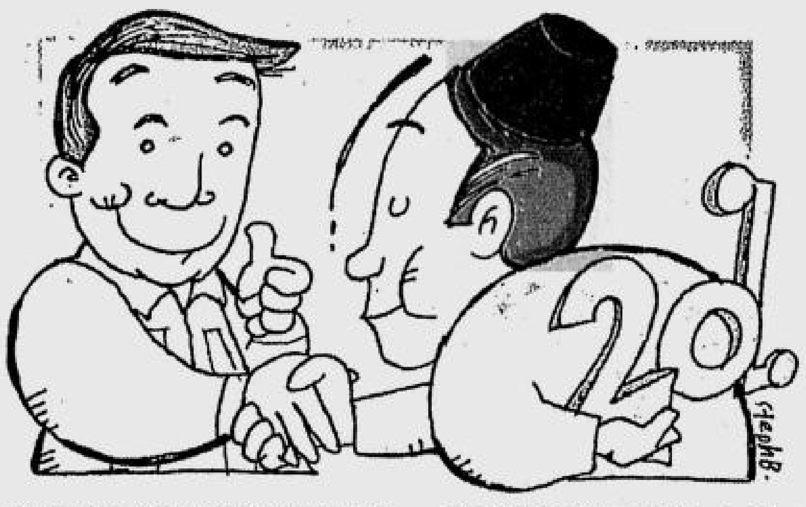
ENERGY Secretary Vicente Perez Jr. said the Malaysian state firm Petronas was willing to take a 20-percent equity interest in the $600-million naphtha cracker project in Bataan.

"Petronas and Philippine National Oil Co. have formed a joint committee to do in-depth studies to ascertain adjustments on the assumptions like the size of the plant, the debt-equity mix and the review of the petrochemical industry master plan for the Philippines," Perez said.

The secretary said that if all these were satisfactory to Petronas, whose president visited the country early this month, it would be willing to invest at least 20 percent of that project's equity.

In an earlier interview, he explained that of the $600-million project cost, $360 million would be covered by loans while $240 million would be in equity.

Perez added that the government aimed to come up by year's end with a memorandum or understanding or a joint venture agreement among the investors interested in joining the project.



He had previously announced that the government of Brunei Darrusalam was seriously studying a possible $84-million equity in the naphtha cracker project.

Perez said it was possible that the equity distribution of the cracker plant would consist of PNOC, 34 percent; Brunei, 34 percent; Petronas, 20 percent, and the remainder (12 percent) would belong to a group of Japanese and local investors.

"Also, we are preparing (to wrap up studies) in anticipation of the upcoming state visit of the Sultan of Brunei next month," he added.

He said that if the MOU or the joint venture agreement is signed next month, the project should come onstream by 2005.

The cracker plant will manufacture raw materials needed to make of plastic products.

Without the cracker facility, the country remains dependent on imported raw materials for the petrochemical industry.

The plant is expected to have a capacity of between 600,000 and 700,000 tons a year.

Wall Street set to reopen for business

NEW YORK—Wall Street, shaken by terror attacks that toppled the World Trade Center symbol of capitalism and shut down US stock markets for the longest time since World War I, rolled up its sleeves on Saturday ready to reopen for business today.

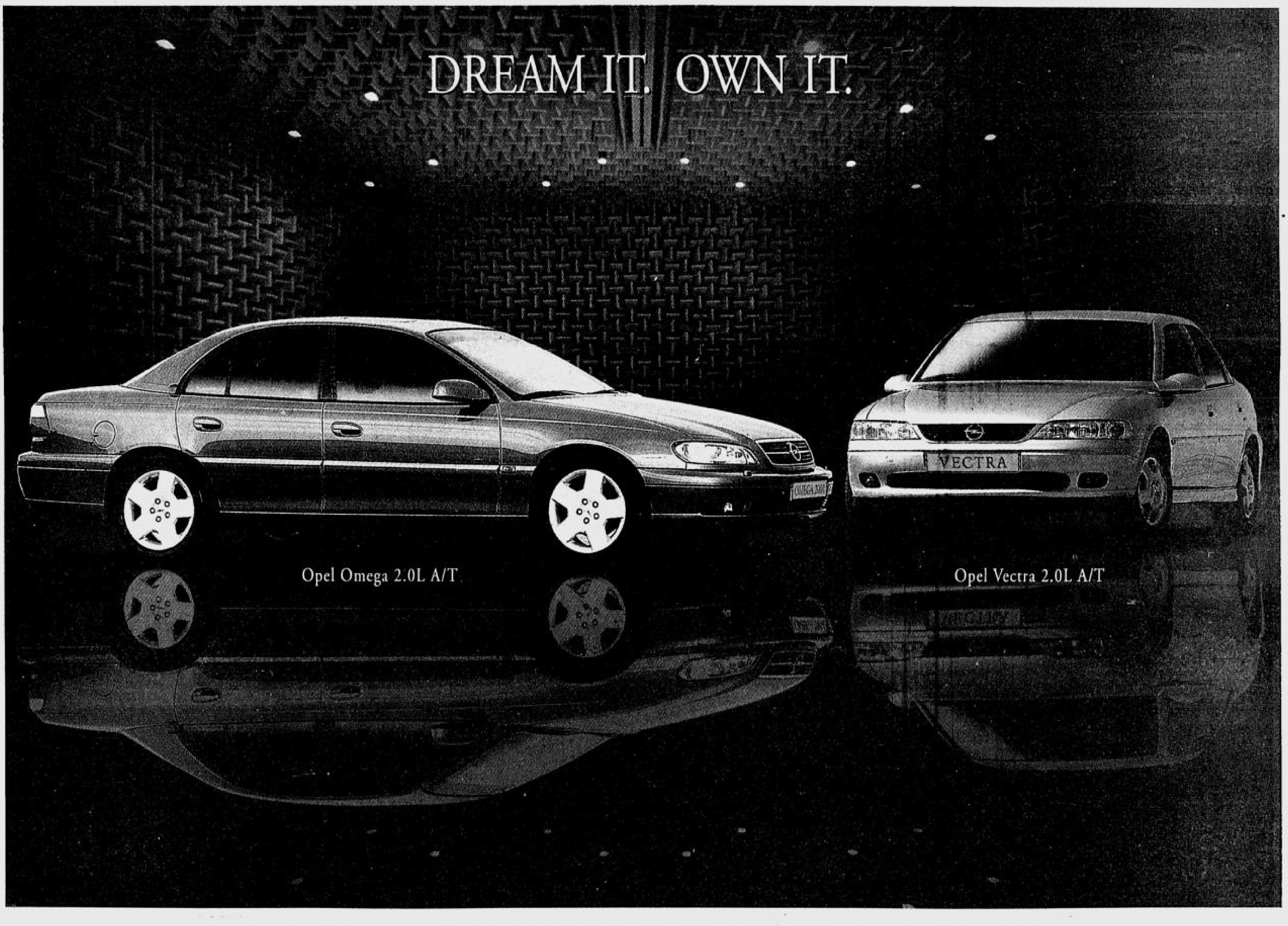
Public transport was returning to part of the financial district even as emergency workers continued to dig in the rubble of the twin 110-story towers that collapsed after Tuesday's air attacks that left hundreds dead and thousands more missing.

New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said buses and subways that daily carry thousands of brokers, bankers and traders into America's financial heart, would start running again in part of the district on Saturday.

The New York Stock Exchange, American Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq all assured investors on Friday they would reopen for trading on Monday morning after being closed for four days. The US stock market has not shut down for so long since the outbreak of World War I.

At a news conference on Friday night, Giuliani outlined plans to open

WALL/ B7



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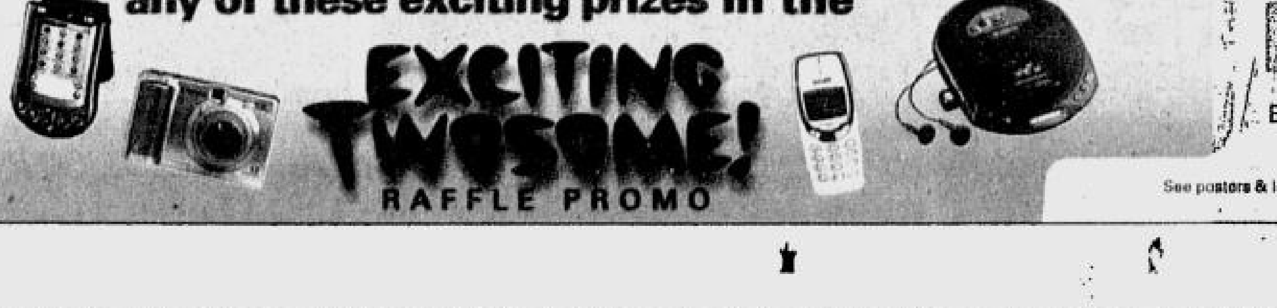

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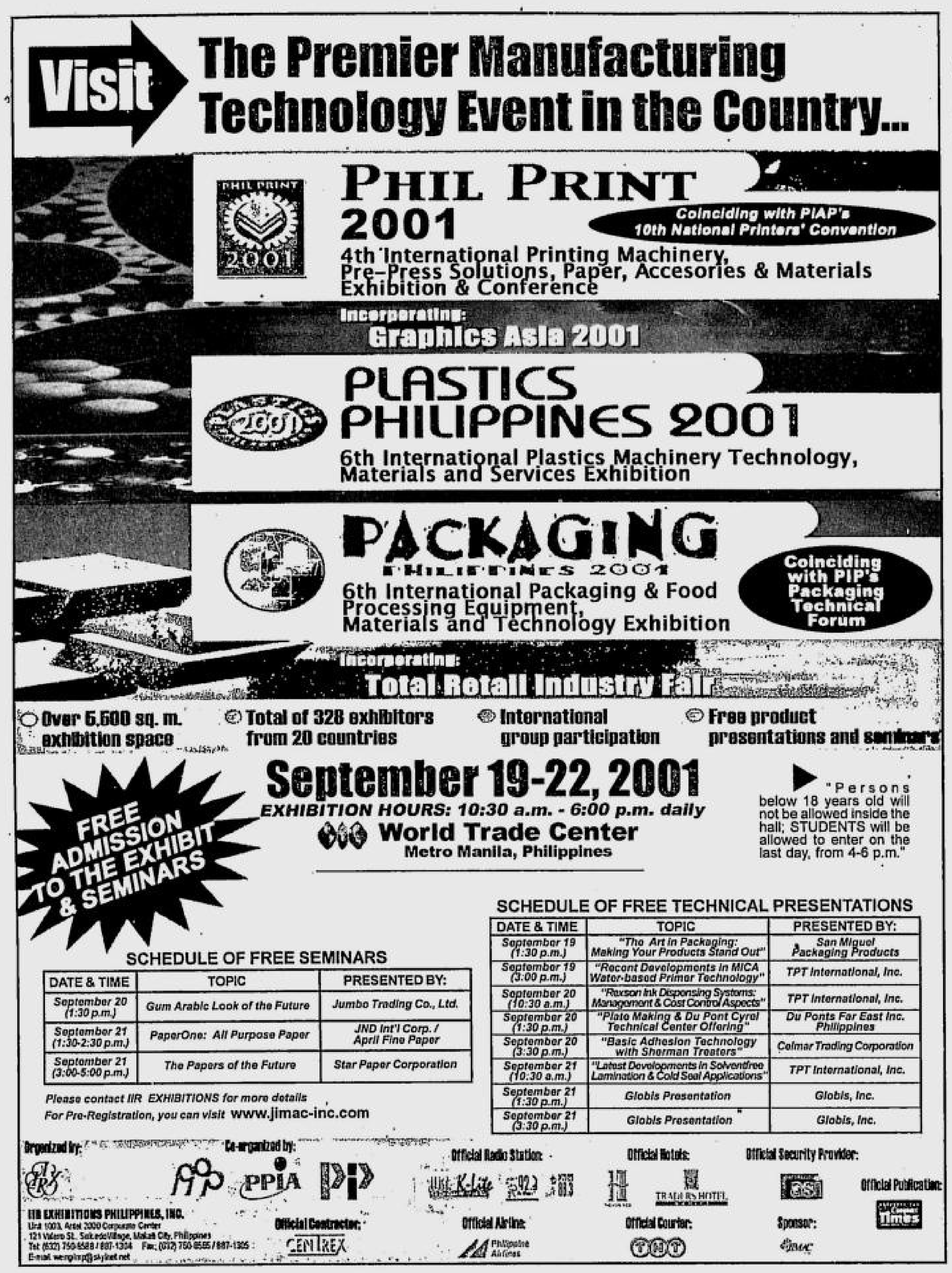
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SCHEDULE OF FREE SEMINARS

DATE & TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTED BY:
September 20 (1:30 p.m.)	Gum Arabic Look of the Future	Jumbo Trading Co., Ltd.
September 21 (1:30-2:30 p.m.)	PaperOne: All Purpose Paper	JND Int'l Corp. / April Fine Paper
September 21 (3:00-5:00 p.m.)	The Papers of the Future	Star Paper Corporation

Please contact IIR EXHIBITIONS for more details
For Pre-Registration, you can visit www.jimac-inc.com

SCHEDULE OF FREE TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS

DATE & TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTED BY:
September 19 (1:30 p.m.)	"The Art in Packaging: Making Your Products Stand Out"	San Miguel Packaging Products
September 19 (3:00 p.m.)	"Recent Developments in MICA Water-based Primer Technology"	TPT International, Inc.
September 20 (10:30 a.m.)	"Rexson Ink Dispensing Systems: Management & Cost Control Aspects"	TPT International, Inc.
September 20 (1:30 p.m.)	"Plate Making & Du Pont Cyrel Technical Center Offering"	Du Ponts Far East Inc. Philippines
September 20 (3:30 p.m.)	"Basic Adhesion Technology with Sherman Treaters"	Celmar Trading Corporation
September 21 (10:30 a.m.)	"Latest Developments in Solventfree Lamination & Cold Seal Applications"	TPT International, Inc.
September 21 (1:30 p.m.)	Globis Presentation	Globis, Inc.
September 21 (3:30 p.m.)	Globis Presentation	Globis, Inc.

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Everyone's concern

MINDANAO ONE

Joji Ilagan Bian

THIS is a pivotal year for Mindanao. The government has shown its strong commitment to the peace process and the economic rehabilitation of the region, and this should be given a boost by the revival of the East Asean Growth Area or Eaga, of which Mindanao is part.

The Eaga initiative has an important new dimension, which many are not yet fully aware of: the increased importance it is being accorded at the national level. In past months, Presidents Macapagal-Arroyo and Megawati, Prime Minister Mahathir, and the Sultan of Brunei have touched upon the topic of Eaga in various bilateral meetings. This November, for the first time, Eaga will be on the agenda of a summit of Asean heads of state.

This new focus is gaining ground in the private sector as well. The national chambers of commerce of the four countries, including the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, are now actively supporting the initiative.

I was heartened to learn that 16 chambers of commerce based in Metro Manila recently passed a resolution at the NCR Business Conference stating their support for Eaga. They also expressed support for the 10th Mindanao Business Conference to be held in Cotabato City this week, and are sending a delegation to attend the conference.

These facts all point to a growing recognition that the country's wellbeing is closely tied to the wellbeing of Mindanao. As Jess Tanchanco of the Metro Manila chambers of commerce said last week, "If Mindanao hurts, we feel it here in Manila, but your economic success will be our success, too."

There are problems that in the past have been viewed as Mindanao-specific, such as the high incidence of poverty and conflicts in some parts of the region, but we realize now that investors do not always make that distinction between Mindanao and the rest of the Philippines. We sink together or swim together.

In any case, many of the problems the Mindanao private sector faces today are the same problems faced by businessmen from Aparri in Luzon to Bohol in the Visayas. The Mindanao Business Council's mandate includes promoting policies that would lower the costs of doing business and attract investments into the region, but many of our policy recommendations would prove equally beneficial for the rest of the country.

We all know, for example, that high transport costs are diminishing our global competitiveness as producers. The council is urging the government to institute reforms that will result in efficient, well-run ports. We ask that Executive Order 59, which promotes monopoly and bundling in the provision of port services, be effectively amended. We also ask that there be greater transparency and competition in the provision of port services.

We all know as well the extent to which corruption, bureaucratic red tape and poor governance can drag down an economy, threatening existing and future investments by increasing costs, making products less competitive, and simply making it unpleasant and cumbersome to do business. The council is seeking sustained government support for effectively dealing with systemic corruption, through our Coalition for Investment Promotion through Transparent Governance.

These issues are every businessman's concern, whether or not he is a Mindanaoan. However, what may appear to be the most Mindanao-specific issue of all is one that impinges heavily on all Filipinos, and which leads us directly back to the need to ensure the sustained economic development and social stability of Mindanao and, indeed, the other territories of Eaga: peace and security.

Our consultations with the private sector held in cities across the region merely confirmed what we already knew, that peace and security remain the primary concern for all Mindanaoans. This week, a resolution will be passed at the conference in Cotabato urging the government to fast-track its formulation of an integrated peace and development strategy for Mindanao, and to prioritize its funding and implementation.

The terrible events in the US last week show how fragile peace is, how it demands the greatest care and concentration at all times. The world waits to see what will happen next. Even as we wait, however, let us do all we can to nurture peace in our own backyard, and unite our efforts to bring about a stable and prosperous future for Mindanao, the Philippines, and its partners.

(Joji Ilagan Bian is the chairperson of the Mindanao Business Council.)

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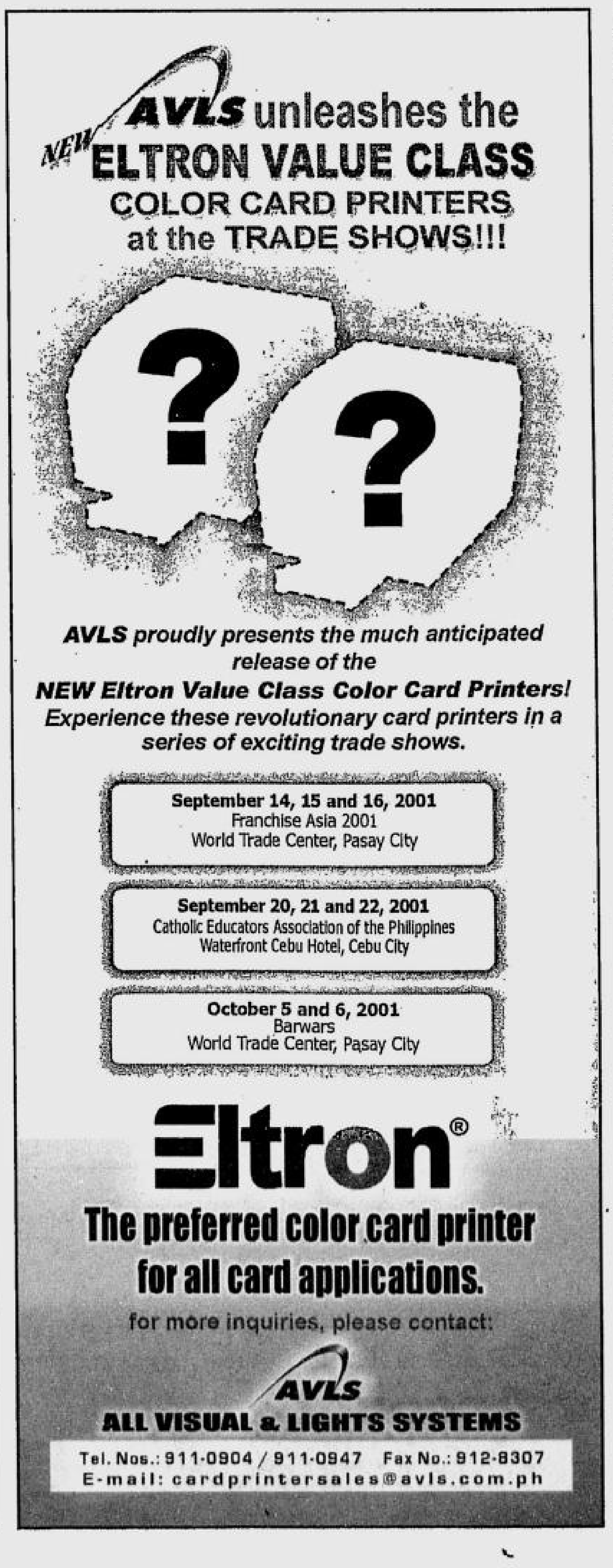
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RP gets $352-M Japan loan

TOKYO—Japan will extend a $352-million loan to the Philippines to build a highway in central Luzon province, Tokyo confirmed Friday.

"Japan Bank for International Cooperation today signed an agreement to extend an ODA (official development assistance) loan amounting to 41,931 million yen ($352 million) for the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway project in the Philippines," the bank said in a statement.

"Central Luzon is an important region for agricultural production in the Philippines where rice is a primary crop and also a core industrial zone," the statement said.

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and Philippines President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, on a state visit to Japan on Thursday exchanged documents agreeing to the loan.

Koizumi told Ms Macapagal that Japan had decided to cut its overall foreign aid by 10 percent starting in the April 2002 fiscal year as it attempted to rein in its deficit and restructure the economy.

He said aid to the Philippines would be affected as a result.

Arroyo was quoted by a Japanese official as telling Koizumi she understood the Japanese position, but that the Philippines continued to look forward to Japan supporting development in economies around the world.

Arroyo arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday and will stay until Saturday. *AFP*

COCKTALES

By Victor C. Agustin

Terminal lies

THE PLUNDER complaint filed by the Naia service operators against Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez is in danger of collapsing after a crucial witness denied having signed any complaint before the Ombudsman against Alvarez and company.

The witness, Venner M. Mendoza, a computer-aided design operator of Wintrack, the excavation contractor at the proposed Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, had earlier submitted a detailed statement and voluminous documents incriminating his own company, Wintrack, for having submitted "bloated" excavation reports and overbilling airport works by P76 million in just the first three months of work last year.

The plunder complaint accused Wintrack, a construction company where Alvarez and his wife had a 30-percent stake, of padding by as much as five times the excavation estimates it had undertaken for the proposed terminal site. With the connivance of government engineers and airport inspectors, these inflated figures are then submitted to the government's Manila International Airport Authority for billing, the complaint alleged.

But the crucial witness, upon which the fate of the plunder complaint hangs, has apparently gone either hiding or missing, but not after having executed a new affidavit denying having signed any complaint against

COCKTALES/ B4

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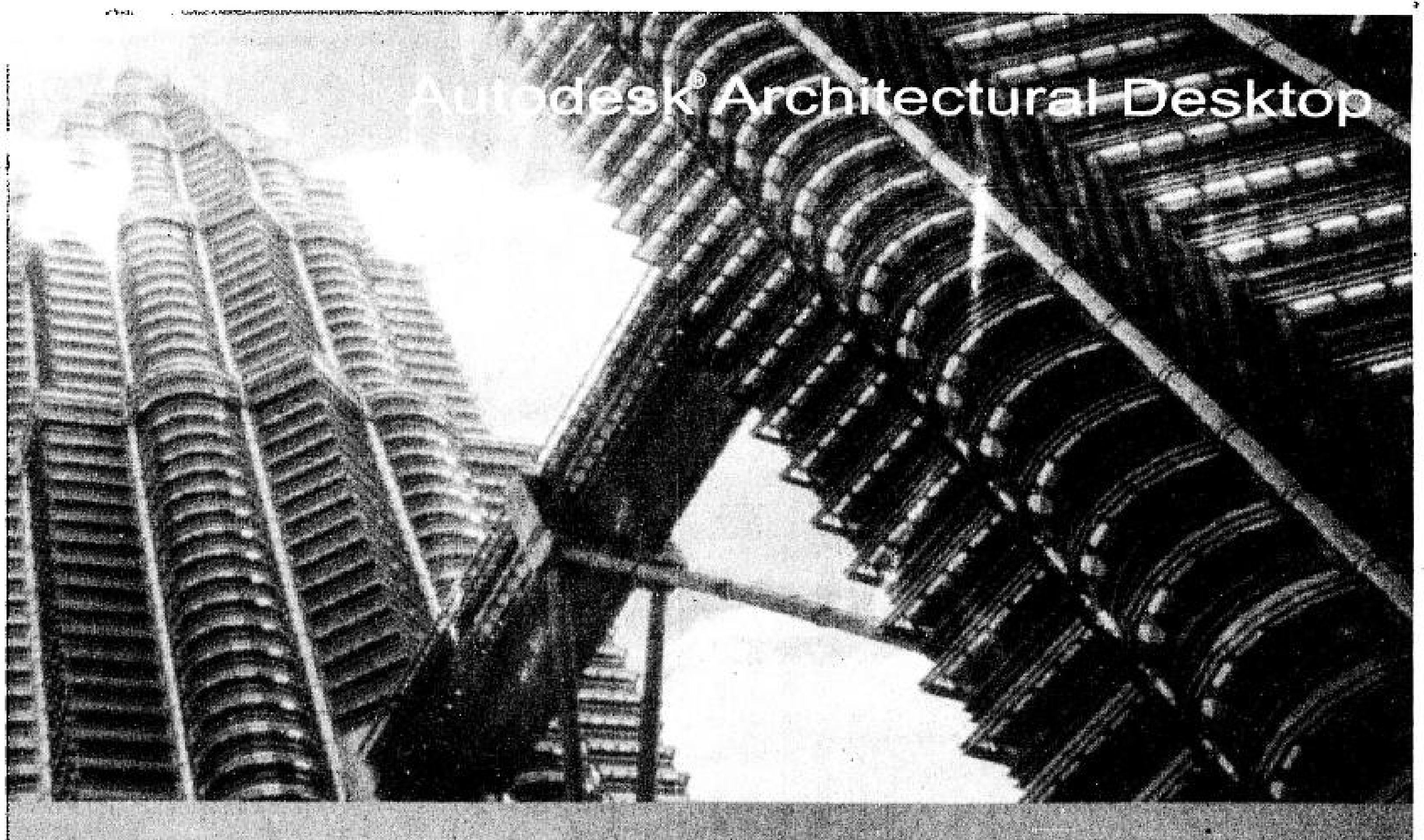

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Cocktales

(From page B3)

Alvarez, Wintrack, and the airport consortium, Philippine International Air Terminals Company Inc. (Piatco).

It was Mendoza himself, according to his letter of July 18, 2001, who first brought to the Terminal 3 oppositors documents about the alleged billing irregularities.

"Please do something about this for the sake of our country," Mendoza said. "As a concerned citizen, I can no longer stomach what is happening."

Mendoza is said to be a deacon of the Iglesia ni Cristo.

His new statement repudiating that July testimony was signed Sept. 10, 2001, the same day that the Terminal 3 oppositors announced the filing of the plunder case.

In his new affidavit, Mendoza claimed that he was offered $200,000 if he would testify against Piatco and Wintrack.

Legal guns ablaze

SERIOUS money is indeed being spent for legal and extra-legal work by either side of the Terminal 3 divide.

The oppositors to the Terminal 3 contract are being represented by a battery of lawyers from Accra for the civil case and by Balgos and Perez for the criminal/Ombudsman complaint.

Lead lawyer Francis Lim of Accra said he declined to handle the Ombudsman complaint on account of his being a fraternity brother of Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez, a fellow Atenean. It was thus decided that the Ombudsman case be handled by Balgos and Perez instead.

The oppositors' legal/lobby kitty is being funded by taipan Lucio Tan, whose Philippine Airlines is being transferred out of Terminal 2 once the new terminal is finished, and by various airport services/cargo firms owned by the likes of Ricky Delgado, Enrique Razon Jr., Bert Lina and Jovino Lorenzo Jr.

Piatco, the German-Japanese-Chinoy consortium that is building Terminal 3, is on the other hand being represented by Quisumbing Torres Evangelista, the law firm provided by Piatco president Vic Cheng Yong.

The Chengs used to own Philippine Blooming Mills before venturing into the cargo forwarding business.

Heard through the grapevine

THE AGUIRRE family feud has reached a new level of intransigence, with Banco Filipino chair Albert "Bobby" Aguirre now filing a new criminal case against younger sister Nanette in Seattle, Washington, that could mean either bankruptcy, jail time or both for his younger sister.

Nanette, who is married to an American, operates a retirement facility in Seattle.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

RFM, Taiwanese firm seek new joint ventures

By Doris C. Dumlao

RFM Corp. is planning to expand its partnership with Taiwanese conglomerate Uni-President group through new ventures in branded consumer food and beverage.

RFM spokesperson Ramon Lopez told reporters on Friday that RFM and Uni-President, which has an existing venture in the noodle manufacturing business, were exploring partnerships in other products.

The Uni-President group owns President Chain Store Corp., Taiwan's biggest retailer, which last year acquired a majority stake in Philippine Seven Corp., the local licensee of the 7-Eleven convenience store chain. It was the first foreign retailer to come to the Philippines after the retail trade sector was liberalized.

The Uni-President group, whose entry in the Philippines was delayed by the Asian currency turmoil, is keen on putting more investments in the country. Aside from the instant noodle business, PSC president Chin Yun Kao said in an earlier interview with the INQUIRER that it would like to invest in beverage products in the country.

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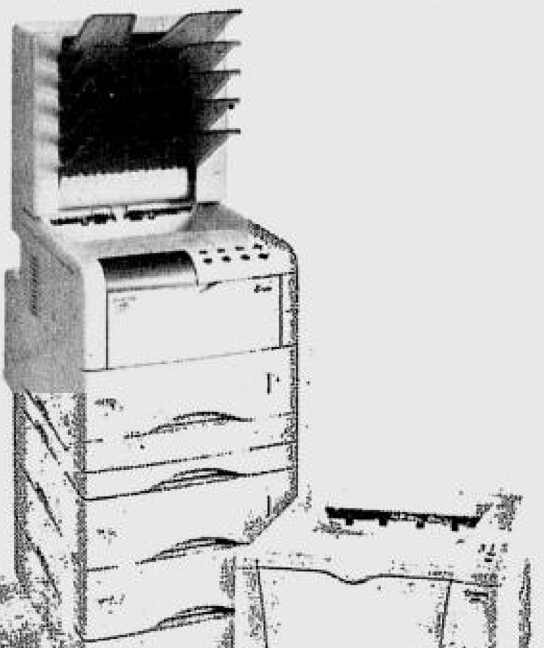

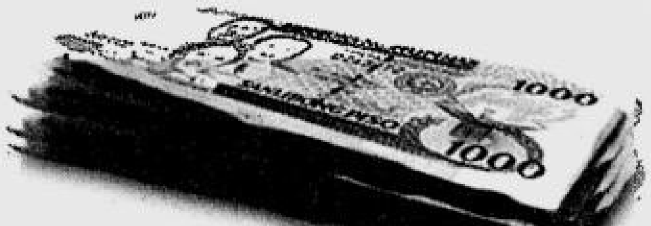

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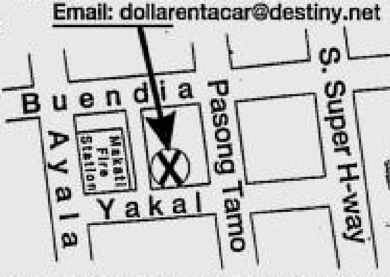

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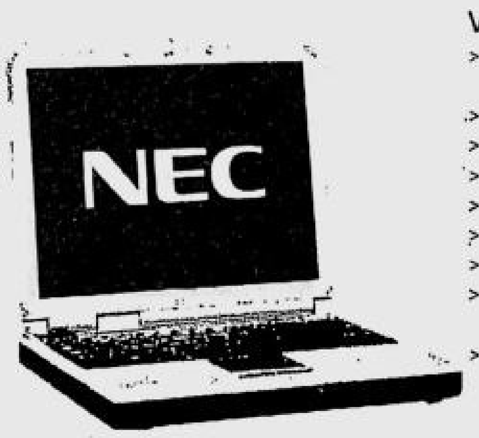

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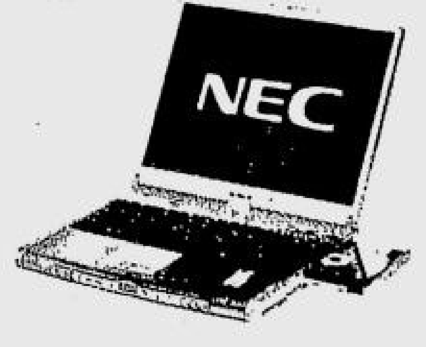

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Chinese firm to help reopen Atlas mine

By Christine A. Gaylican

ATLAS Consolidated Mining and Development Corp. will sign a joint-venture agreement with Jinshuan Nonferrous Metals Corp. of China to help it rehabilitate and reopen the Toledo copper mine in Cebu.

The agreement is expected to be signed in October when President Macapagal-Arroyo visits Shanghai, primarily to attend a summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, a source from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources said Friday.

Alakor Corp. of businessman Alfredo Ramos has taken over Atlas Consolidated Mining and Development Corp. from the Soriano family.

The listed mining firm said in a report obtained by the INQUIRER that Toledo mine's rehabilitation would require $84 million or P4.2 billion, and that it expected to fund the mine's reopening through "a combination of copper concentrate off-take agreements, equity placements and bank loans."

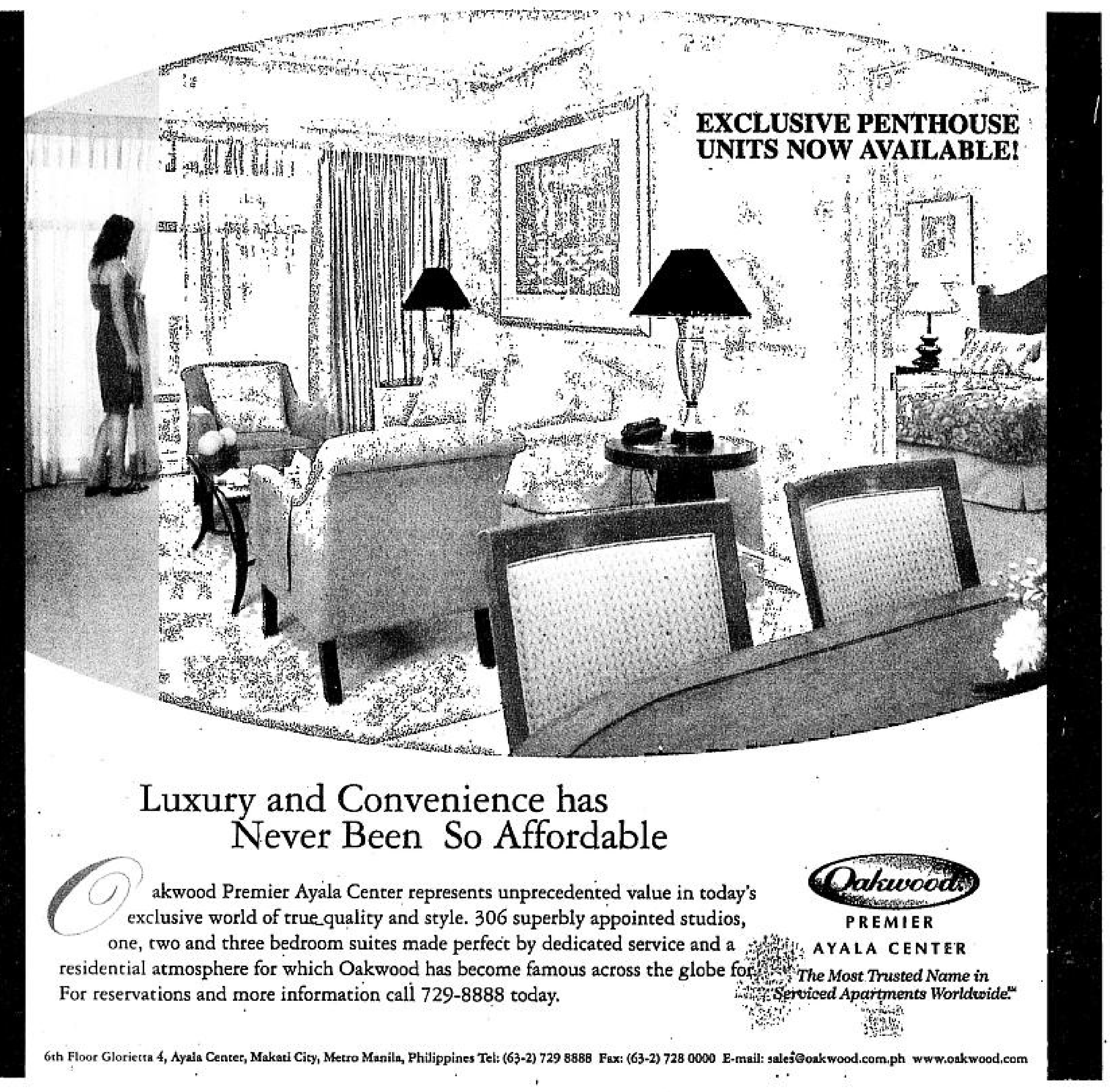
Atlas is currently studying off-take arrangement proposals with companies such as Sumitomo Corp., LG-Nippon, NFC (China Nonferrous) and Enron Metals and Commodities.

The agreement will supersede an accord signed last year between Atlas and the China Nonferrous Metal to reopen Toledo, the DENR source said. Ms Macapagal witnessed the signing of this earlier agreement in Beijing when she was still Vice President.

The Toledo copper mine was the largest in Asia until its operations were suspended in 1994 after the mine had been flooded during a typhoon. Lack of investments during a period of low copper prices caused the continued suspension of mine operations.

In 1996, a local group, Minoro Mining and Exploration Corp., agreed to a debt-for-equity swap agreement to rehabilitate and reopen Toledo, but later withdrew after the Asian currency crisis rendered it incapable of raising funds.

In its 39 years of operation, the Toledo mine produced 667 million tons of ore, which was processed to produce copper concentrates containing 5.6 billion pounds of copper.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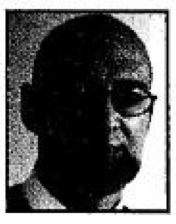
Assessing the future

ON THE MONEY



John Mangun

THERE are no words that can accurately describe feelings looking at the pictures of the airplanes crashing into the World Trade Center. There is no word of sympathy that can quench the flames of pain and anger of those who directly suffered.

We have heard many times over the last week that this event has changed the world and it will never be the same again. However, although not wanting to sound heartless or insensitive, so many events can be described with the same words.

When Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin, the world changed. Much sickness and suffering ended, but as a result, lives were extended and world population has exploded. The atom bombs that fell on Japan ended a cruel and perhaps foolish war, but ushered in 50 years of nuclear nightmare. The first artificial satellite launched by the USSR in 1957 brought the modern communications we enjoy today, along with weapons that can touch every corner of the globe. When Arab terrorists killed 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Summer Olympics, the world changed forever too. This is an extension of that occurrence.

The enormity of this deed of destruction is astounding. Watching those buildings collapse was an amazing experience. And knowing that inside those structures were thousands of people was staggering. Nevertheless, as Joseph Stalin once said, "A single death is a tragedy, a million deaths is a statistic."

To understand the possible global consequences of this event, it is important to understand the American consciousness in its wake. Leonard Pitts Jr. in the Miami-Times Herald wrote: "Let me tell you about my people. We are a vast and quarrelsome family; a family rent by racial, social and political, and class division, but a family nonetheless. We are frivolous, yes, capable of expending tremendous emotional energy on pop cultural minutiae—a singer's revealing dress, a ball team's misfortune and a cartoon mouse.

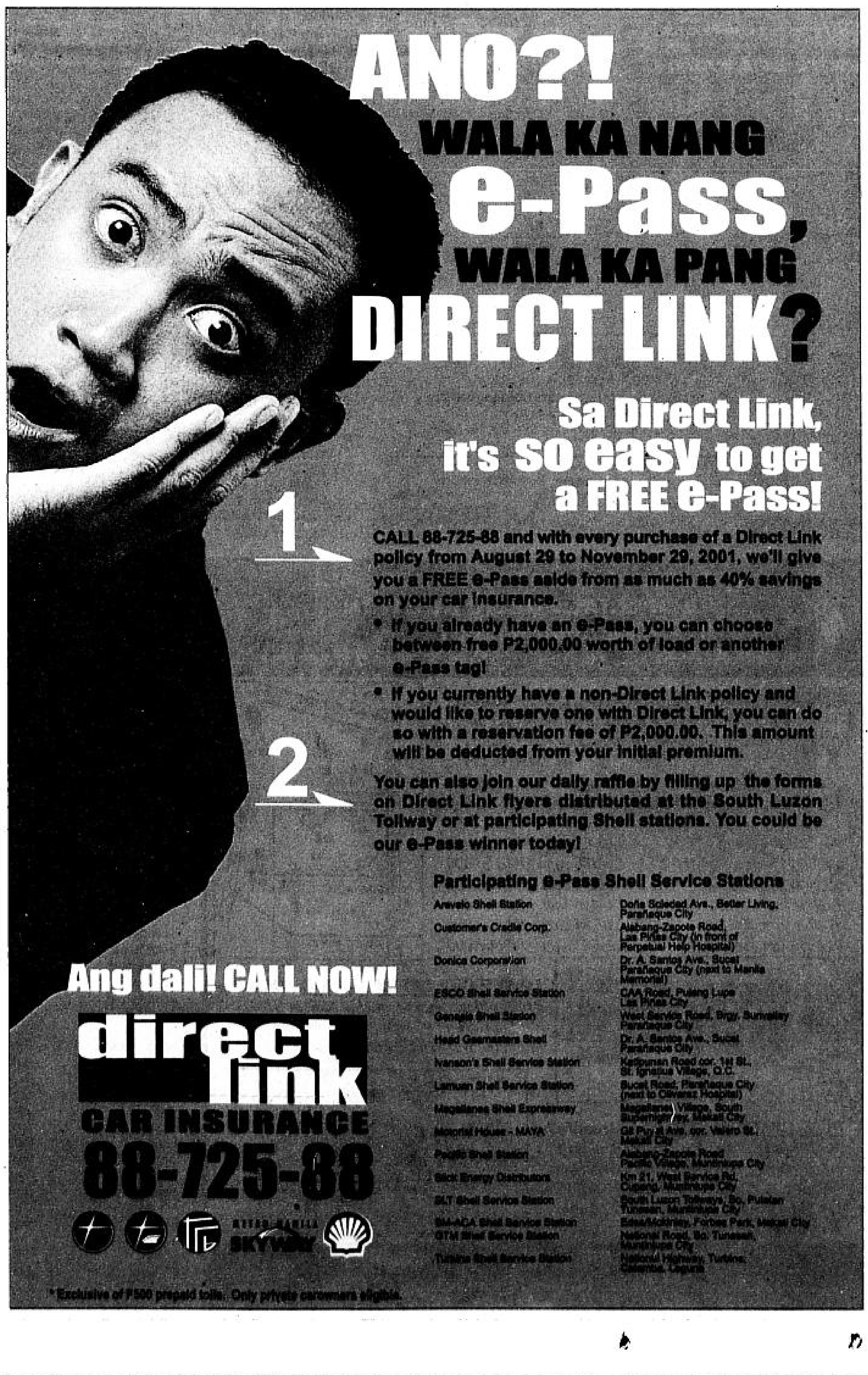
We are wealthy, too, spoiled by the ready availability of trinkets and material goods, and maybe because of that, we walk through life with a certain sense of blithe entitlement.

"You see, the steel in us is not always readily apparent. That aspect of our character is seldom understood by people who don't know us well. When roused, we are righteous in our outrage, terrible in our force. When provoked by this level of barbarism, we will bear any suffering, pay any cost and go to any length, in the pursuit of justice. I tell you this without fear of contradiction. I know my people. What I know reassures me. It also causes me to tremble with dread of the future. You don't know what we're capable of. You don't know what you just started. But you're about to learn."

The reason I bring up the psychological considerations of America is that this will determine in large measure what happens, particularly in the weeks and months to come.

Initially all eyes will focus on the US stock market tonight. Conventional wisdom calls for a large

ASSESSING/ B9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ESCO Shell Service Station	CAA Road, Pulang Lupa Las Piñas City
Genesis Shell Station	West Service Road, Brgy. Sunvalley Parañaque City
Head Gasmasters Shell	Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat Parañaque City
Ivanson's Shell Service Station	Katipunan Road cor. 1st St., St. Ignatius Village, Q.C.
Lamuan Shell Service Station	Sucat Road, Parañaque City (next to Olivarez Hospital)
Magallanes Shell Expressway	Magallanes Village, South Superhighway, Makati City
Motorial House - MAYA	Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Valero St., Makati City
Pacific Shell Station	Alabang-Zapote Road Pacific Village, Muntinlupa City
Slick Energy Distributors	Km 21, West Service Rd. Cupang, Muntinlupa City
SLT Shell Service Station	South Luzon Tollways, Bo. Putatan Tunasan, Muntinlupa City
SM-ACA Shell Service Station	Edsa/McKinley, Forbes Park, Makati City
GTM Shell Service Station	National Road, Bo. Tunasan, Muntinlupa City
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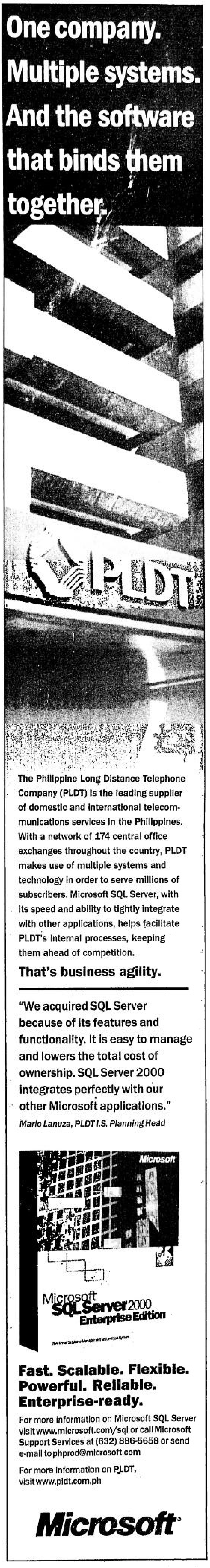
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Weak activity seen as market awaits reopening of Wall Street

MARKET PLAY

By DORIS C. DUMLAO

SPILLOVER jitters from the recent terrorist attacks against the United States are seen to continue haunting local stocks this week as the market cautiously awaits the reopening of the Wall Street tonight.

Traders said external uncertainties would keep investors at bay and that the local stock market would take the cue from what would happen when the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq resume trading Monday night (Manila time) after a four-day suspension.

With the United States bracing to go to war with countries harboring the terrorists, analysts said further downside risks were expected this week.

Irving Ackerman, president of I. Ackerman & Co. Inc., noted that the US attacks had reversed the positive momentum that was building up in the local stock market since early this month.

"I don't think the market would show too much of a trend and if it does, it will likely go down. Even prior to the attacks, the Dow Jones index has been going down," Ackerman said.

Mercantile Securities analyst Warren Chua said investors would likely stay on the sidelines this week while awaiting further developments in the US. He said the main-share Philippine Stock Exchange composite index would trade within a tight range and likely hover toward the 1,200 support level.

"I think the market may lose some more ground. First, there will be thin volume and second, investors are anticipating the worst. There is no incentive to jump in the market even if the prices are low," Chua said.

"If the US markets show extreme weakness, the selloff will spill over. The US attacks have repercussions not only on the US economy but the global economy as well. The Asian markets will still be affected," he said.

On a weekly basis, the Phisix declined by 60.93 points or 4.7 percent to close at 1236.42 on Friday.

BPI Securities analyst Roberto Cano said the breaching of the 1,240 support level hinted of further weakness. He said the next support range stood deeper at 1,110 to 1,150.

"While it is possible for the market to whipsaw back to 1,240, it may be better to wait for the market to settle," Cano said.

"The market's direction is likely to remain sideways with a downward bias in the short term. The terrorist attacks in the US created an atmosphere of pessimism and uncertainty in the market," he said.

Vickers Ballas Securities associate director for sales Eric Sta. Ana said: "There might still be some selling as investors are waiting whether this whole thing might lead to further recession and whether the US will go to war."

Sta. Ana said 1,071 was still the local stock market's most solid support and this level might be tested soon.

"There might be selloffs in New York but bargain-hunters could come in. But any slight rally in the Philippines could be seen as an opportunity to sell more," he said.

Meanwhile, the PSE will implement starting today the recomposition of the main-share Phisix, the barometer for investor confidence.

Five new companies will now be included in the 30-company index: Bank of the Philippine Island, Union Cement Corp., Music Corp., Globe Telecom Inc. and First Philippine Holdings Corp.

On the other hand, the companies to be taken out of the Phisix are Union Bank of the Philippines, Southeast Asian Cement Holdings Inc., C&P Homes Inc., Filinvest Development Corp. and Pilipino Telephone Corp.

Analysts said the recomposition of the Phisix would not likely affect the market.

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Friday, September 14, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Bank of the Phil. Islands	58.5	58.5	58	58.5	786,500
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	29	30	29	29	109,900
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	209	209	206	209	19,440
Philippine National Bank	51	52	51	52	3,400
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	20	20	20	20	1,000
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Filipino Fund Inc	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	40,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	243	243	243	243	100
Manulife Financial Corp.	1200	1245	1200	1240	2,490
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1000	1020	995	995	3,020
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	30	30	30	30	1,800
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.44	0.44	640,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	640	650	635	650	63,970
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	1,000,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	1,640,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3	3	3	3	30,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	500	505	495	500	160,320
Ivantage Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	100,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.027	0.027	0.026	0.027	18,700,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	30	30.5	30	30.5	32,500
Manila Electric Co. B	43	43.5	43	43	321,500
Petron Corp.	1.64	1.68	1.58	1.58	2,706,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	30,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.92	1.92	1.88	1.88	792,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	30,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.3	0.31	0.3	0.31	140,000
Republic Cement Corp.	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.5	435,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	50,000
Union Cement Corp.	1.16	1.18	1.16	1.18	205,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	1,060,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13	13	12.75	12.75	18,000
La Tondena Distillers Inc.	26	26	25.5	25.5	28,300
RFM Corp.	2.12	2.12	2.06	2.06	1,865,000
San Miguel Corp. A	39.5	40	39	40	199,800
San Miguel Corp. B	53.5	53.5	50.5	51.5	208,200
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	940,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.5	1.52	1.5	1.5	843,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.82	0.82	0.79	0.81	970,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	50,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	16,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.31	0.44	0.31	0.44	2,660,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.44	1.48	1.38	1.4	4,127,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	100,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	100,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	800,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.75	0.75	50,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	28	28	28	28	332,900
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.28	0.3	0.2	0.2	380,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	20,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	70,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	1,400,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.65	0.67	0.65	0.67	1,130,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.3	2,620,000
Music Corp.	0.92	0.93	0.92	0.93	240,000
Philtread Holdings Corp.	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	5,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.22	0.25	0.18	0.23	560,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.24	0.27	0.24	0.27	230,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
A Brown Company Inc.	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	10,000
Matsushita Elec Phil Corp.	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	40,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.5	0.51	0.5	0.5	200,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.0725	0.09	0.0725	0.08	5,000,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	10,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	12	12	11.25	12	75,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	300,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.49	380,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	570,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	50,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	30	30	30	30	230,500
Cosmos Bottling Corp.-Pref	11	11	11	11	5,000
Globe Telecom Hldg (Pdr)	620	620	620	620	140
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	12,000,000
Philweb.Com Inc. -Warrants	0.009	0.0095	0.009	0.0095	40,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	4.7	4.7	4.65	4.65	3,013,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	1,200,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	500,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.86	1.86	1.84	1.84	2,618,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21	200,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	20,000
SM Development Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	130,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	348,000
Universal Rightfield Prop	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	300,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0038	0.0038	0.0034	0.0034	27,000,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	5,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.033	0.035	0.033	0.034	26,900,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	10,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.165	0.175	0.165	0.175	70,000
Omico Corp.	0.0034	0.0034	0.0032	0.0032	43,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.34	0.34	0.32	0.32	100,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	250,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	10,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	2,000,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	965,850	59,655,630.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	123,009,530	210,660,875.00
PRO	8,329,000	21,768,960.00
Mining	97,335,000	1,312,950.00
OIL	12,000,000	177,200.00
GRAND TOTALS :	241,644,380	293,590,865.00

	AVERAGES	
Banks & Fin Svc	515.14	DOWN 0.86
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,726.72	DOWN 10.18
PRO	490.08	UP 0.52
Mining	1,190.72	DOWN 25.26
OIL	1.44	UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	690.86	UP 14.76
Composite	1,236.42	DOWN 7.34

NO. OF ADVANCES: 14; NO. OF DECLINES: 37; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 40;
NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 91; NO. OF TRADES: 1,570

CURRENCIES

Sept. 14, 2001

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.097093	1.000000	51.2690
Japan	Yen	0.009231	0.008414	0.4314
United Kingdom	Pound	1.614591	1.471700	75.4526
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.140834	0.128370	6.5814
Switzerland	Franc	0.665671	0.606759	31.1079
Canada	Dollar	0.700436	0.638447	32.7325
Singapore	Dollar	0.631239	0.575374	29.4988
Australia	Dollar	0.564639	0.514668	26.3865
Bahrain	Dinar	2.910215	2.652661	135.9993
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.292558	0.266667	13.6718
Brunei	Dollar	0.629247	0.573559	29.4058
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000121	0.000110	0.0056
Thailand	Baht	0.024815	0.022619	1.1597
UAE	Dirham	0.298772	0.272331	13.9621
Korea	Won	0.000850	0.000775	0.0397
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.911500	46.7317
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.466043	23.8936
France	Franc	0.152450	0.138957	7.1242
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453761	0.413621	21.2059
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.066241	3.3961
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.022595	1.1584
Italy	Lire	0.000517	0.000471	0.0241
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.153303	7.8597
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004547	0.2331
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005478	0.2809
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.022595	1.1584
Ireland	Punt	1.269738	1.157366	59.3370

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CANLUBANG GC	865,000
CAPITOL HILLS	135,000
LUISITA GC "A"	535,000
MAKATI SPORTS "A"/"B"	0.43M/0.45M
MANILA POLO CLUB	3,200,000
MANILA SOUTHWOODS "A"	750,000
ORCHARD "A"	260,000
RIVIERA GCC "A" / "B"	0.235M/0.400M
ROCKWELL CLUB	585,000
STA. ELENA "A"	2,000,000
TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS	900,000
VALLEY GOLF	270,000
WACK-WACK GOLF	8,000,000

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CELEBRITY CLUB	200,000
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EAGLERIDGE "C"	400,000
MAKATI SPORTS "A"	Call now
MANILA GOLF (INDIV)	13,000,000
MANILA POLO	Call now
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SELLING	
Alabang A/B	1.650M/1.8M
Baguio Country Club	725,000
Camp John Hay Golf	315,000
Canlubang Golf	745,000
Capitol Hills	130,000
Celebrity	205,000
CC at Tagaytay Highland	390,000
Eagle Ridge A/B	400/450
Fontana A/B/C/D	Please call
Forest Hills A/B/C	240/250/440
Manila Golf (Indv.)	13,000,000
Manila Golf (Corp.)	15,970,000
Manila Polo	3,000,000
Manila Southwoods A/B	750/760,000
Makati Sports A/B	300/348,000
Mimosa	200,000
Mt. Malarayat A/B/C	340/450/600
Orchard A/B/C	250/Pls. call
Rockwell Club	500,000
Puerto Azul	150,000
Quezon City Sports	240,000
Riviera A/B/C	200,000/Pls. call
Sta. Elena A	1,725,000
Sta. Elena B	2,200,000
Sherwood A	175,000
Subic Yacht (Indv.)	230,000
Subic Yacht (Corp.)	400,000
Tagaytay Highland Club/Golf	390/888
Tagaytay Midlands	750,000
Valle Verde CC	190,000
The Country Club	4,000,000
Valley Golf	275,000
BUYING:	
Alabang A/B	1.6M/1.8M
Baguio Country Club	700,000
Capitol Hills	130,000
Celebrity	200,000
CC at Tagaytay Highland	390,000
Eagle Ridge A/B	350,000
Fontana A/B/C/D	Please call
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Orchard A/B/C	250,000/Pls. call
Quezon City Sports	235,000
Riviera A/B/C	200,000/Please call
Sta. Elena A/B	1,725,000/Pls. call
Tagaytay Highland Club/Golf	390/888
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Alabang A	1,700,000	Pls. Call
Baguio CC	780,000	Pls. Call
Camp John Hay	350,000	-
Canyon Woods	400,000	-
Celebrity Sports	205,000	190,000
The Country Club	7,000,000	-
Eagleridge-A	-	350,000
Eagleridge-B	500,000	-
Eastridge	250,000	-
Filipinas Golf	350,000	300,000
Fontana C	140,000	-
Fontana D	80,000	-
Forest Hills A	240,000	Pls. Call
Malarayat A	330,000	Pls. Call
Malarayat C	-	600,000
Manila Golf	14,700,000	-
Manila Polo	3,300,000	3,000,000
Manila Southwoods A	750,000	Pls. Call
Manila Southwoods B	Best Price!	-
Mimosa A	200,000	-
Mimosa C2	300,000	-
Orchard	300,00	Pls. Call
Riviera	250,000	-
Sherwood	250,000	-
Sta. Elena	1,900,000	-
Subic Golf	310,000	Pls. Call
Tagaytay CC	350,000	-
Tagaytay Midlands	700,000	-
Tagaytay Highlands	Pls. Call	-
Tivoli Royale	230,000	Pls. Call
Valle Verde C	300,000	-
Wack-wack	7,800,000	-

Playing Rights available lessor

Alabang	60,000	Tagaytay CC	40,000
Eagleridge	50,000	Tagaytay Midlands	50,000
Orchard	Best Buy!	Tagaytay Highlands	60,000
Manila Southwoods	50,000	Wack-wack	90,000

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2. BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	750,000.00	-
3. CALATAGAN GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	100,000.00	-
4. CANLUBANG GOLF CLUB	900,000.00	-
5. CAMP JOHN HAY GOLF CLUB "A"	Please call	-
6. CAMP JOHN HAY GOLF CLUB "C"	-	Please call
7. CELEBRITY SPORTS CLUB	-	Please call
8. EAGLERIDGE GOLF CLUB "B"	500,000.00	-
9. FOREST HILLS "A"	250,000.00	-
10. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "A"	300,300.00	-
11. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "B"	350,000.00	-
12. MANILA POLO CLUB	3,200,000.00	Please call
13. MANILA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB (Individual)	-	Please call
14. MANILA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB (Corporate)	-	Please call
15. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "A"	750,000.00	-
16. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "B"	850,000.00	-
17. MONTEMAR BEACH CLUB	-	30,000.00
18. MT. MALARAYAT "B"	450,000.00	-
19. ORCHARD GOLF CLUB "B"	400,000.00	-
20. ORCHARD GOLF CLUB "C"	600,000.00	-
21. PUERTO AZUL BEACH CLUB	150,000.00	Please call
22. PUNTA FUEGO (IND.)	945,000.00	-
23. QUEZON CITY SPORTS CLUB	250,000.00	-
24. RIVIERA GOLF CLUB "A"	250,000.00	-
25. SUBIC YATCH CLUB	750,000.00 all/in	-
26. SPLENDIDO	600,000.00	-
27. SHERWOOD HILLS "B"	350,000.00	-
28. TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS INT'L. GOLF CLUB	900,000.00	-
29. TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS GOLF CLUB	850,000.00	-
30. VALLE VERDE COUNTRY CLUB (Individual)	190,000.00	-
31. VALLEY GOLF CLUB	320,000.00	Please call
32. VERDEMAR GOLF CLUB, INC. (CEBU)	Please call	-
33. WACK WACK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	-	7,000,000.00
34. THE COUNTRY CLUB	Please call	-
35. OTHERS	Please call	-

PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE

ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB	Please call
CANLUBANG GOLF CLUB	Please call
COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY	Please call
MAKATI SPORTS CLUB	Please call
MANILA SOUTHWOODS	Please call
STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB	Please call
TAGAYTAY INT'L. GOLF CLUB	Please call
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	Please call
VALLEY GOLF CLUB	Please call
WACK WACK GOLF CLUB	Please call
ORCHARD GOLF CLUB	Please call
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Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	Please Call	1,900,000
Baguio Country Club	725,000	800,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	80,000	100,000
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	-	115,000
Camp John Hay	300,000	330,000
Canlubang	-	800,000
Canyonwoods	-	350,000
Capitol Hills	130,000	140,000
Cebu Country Club	1,930,000	2,000,000
Celebrity Sports Club	-	Please Call
Eagle Ridge "A"/"B"/"C"	Please Call	Please Call
Eastridge "A"	Please Call	Please Call
Evercrest "A"	-	100,000
Forest Hills "A"	200,000	220,000
Forest Hills "B"	-	230,000
Forest Hills "C"	-	350,000
Makati Sports Club "A"	300,000	350,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	350,000	450,000
Manila Golf (Corporate)	15,000,000	16,000,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	Please Call	14,000,000
Manila Polo	-	3,100,000
Manila Southwoods "A"	730,000	750,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	700,000	800,000
Metropolitan Club "B"	110,000	150,000
Mimosa Golf & Country Club (Corporate)	-	350,000
Montemar (Individual)	-	30,000
Mt. Malarayat	-	350,000
Orchard Golf Club "A"	200,000	250,000
Orchard Golf Club "B"	-	350,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	-	500,000
Philippine Columbian	-	85,000
Pueblo de Oro "A"/"B"/"C"	-	Please Call
Puerto Azul	-	150,000
Quezon City Sports Club	200,000	250,000
Riviera Golf & Country Club "A"	-	Please Call
Royale Tagaytay "A/B/C"	Please Call	Please Call
Sherwood Hills "A"	-	170,000
Sta. Elena "A"	1,725,000	1,900,000
Sta. Elena "B"	2,000,000	2,200,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	-	400,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	200,000	220,000
Tagaytay Country Club	-	400,000
Tagaytay Highlands	850,000	900,000
Tagaytay Midlands	750,000	800,000
The Country Club	Please Call	Please Call
Valle Verde (Individual)	180,000	200,000
Valley Golf	250,000	275,000
Wack-Wack Golf Club	7,000,000	7,500,000

PLAYING RIGHTS
(Available Lessors)

Alabang "A"	40,000	Mimosa Golf	20,000
Calatagan "A"	10,000	Orchard "A"	15,000
Canlubang	55,000	Riviera "A"	15,000
Eagleridge	30,000	Sta. Elena	65,000
Eastridge "A"	20,000	Tagaytay CC	30,000
Forest Hills	30,000	Tagaytay Golf	50,000
Manila Southwoods	40,000	Tagaytay Mid.	35,000
Makati Sports "A"	25,000	Valley Golf	20,000
Manila Golf	300,000	Wack-Wack	90,000

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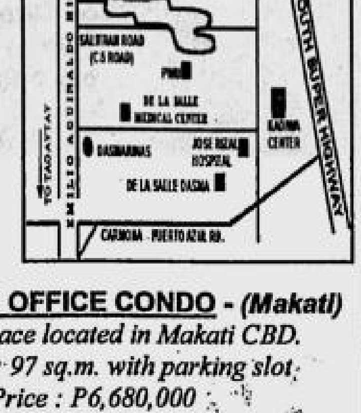

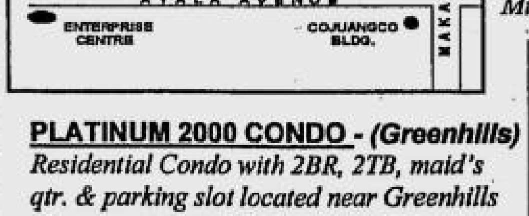

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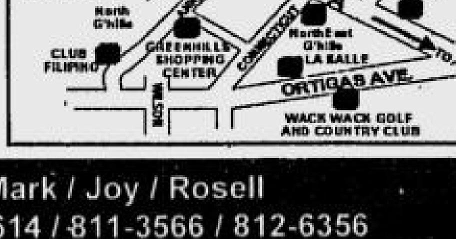

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Wall Street . . .

(From page B1)

up part of the lower Manhattan area—home to America's key financial institutions—that has been sealed off to all but rescue workers.

Subway lines and buses will be running east of Broadway on Saturday, the mayor said. Cars, however, will not be allowed in the downtown area on Saturday.

The World Trade Center complex, where close to 40,000 people used to work, was located on Church Street, a north-south thoroughfare, one block west of Broadway.

Giuliani and other city officials said the New York Stock Exchange and its member firms—banks and brokerages—would be testing their systems on Saturday morning before Monday's planned reopening. The NYSE is just a five-minute walk from the World Trade Center.

Reuters

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- The Benefits of IT Outsourcing
- Insights and Lessons Learned from Actual IT Outsourced Projects

Resource Speakers:

DR. JOHN BUTTERWORTH, Managing Director of American Data Exchange Corporation. Dr. Butterworth has PhD in Electronic Engineering from Manchester University, UK, and has over 30 years experience in outsourcing business and software development. Previously, a Consultant for the Rand Corporation, Rockwell Defense Communications, and did outsourcing projects for World Bank, American Express, Burford Ltd.-UK, and USAID as a support contract for US State Department for thirteen (13) US Embassies in Asia.

MICHAEL JOHN HENDERSON, Sykes Managing Director for Asia & Pacific Rim, has worked for call center industry for 7 years in Edinburg, Scotland and joined Sykes in 1997. Sykes has 44 call centers worldwide with 17,000 employees and over 15,000 customer care agents. Henderson manages the Philippines and Shanghai operations in Asia.

JAIME G. DEL ROSARIO, Country Managing Director of the Philippine operations of Accenture (formerly Andersen Consulting), the world's largest management consulting and technology services organization with over 65,000 employees in 45 countries. Del Rosario is three-time Director of Philippine Computer Society, holds Masters degree in Computer Applications & Technology from AIT.

JOHN MICHAEL T. TICZON, Managing Director of Software Services of SPI Technologies. SPI Technolologies Inc. is a leading software provider of world class technology services since 1980 and ISO 9000 certified software company. Ticzon has worked with AT&T, New Jersey, US prior joining SPI Technologies Inc. and holds MBA degree in Computer Systems from City University of New York, US.

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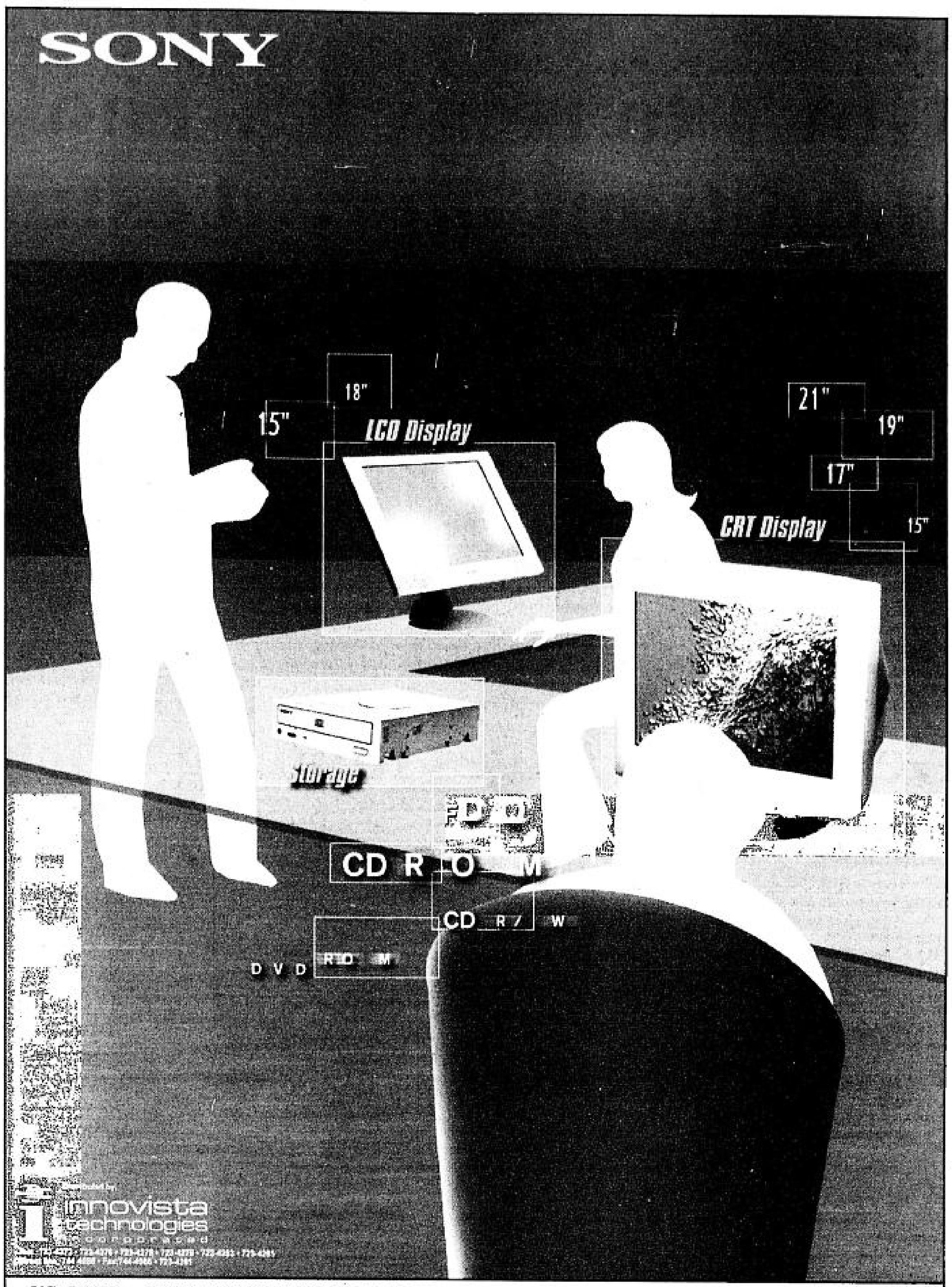

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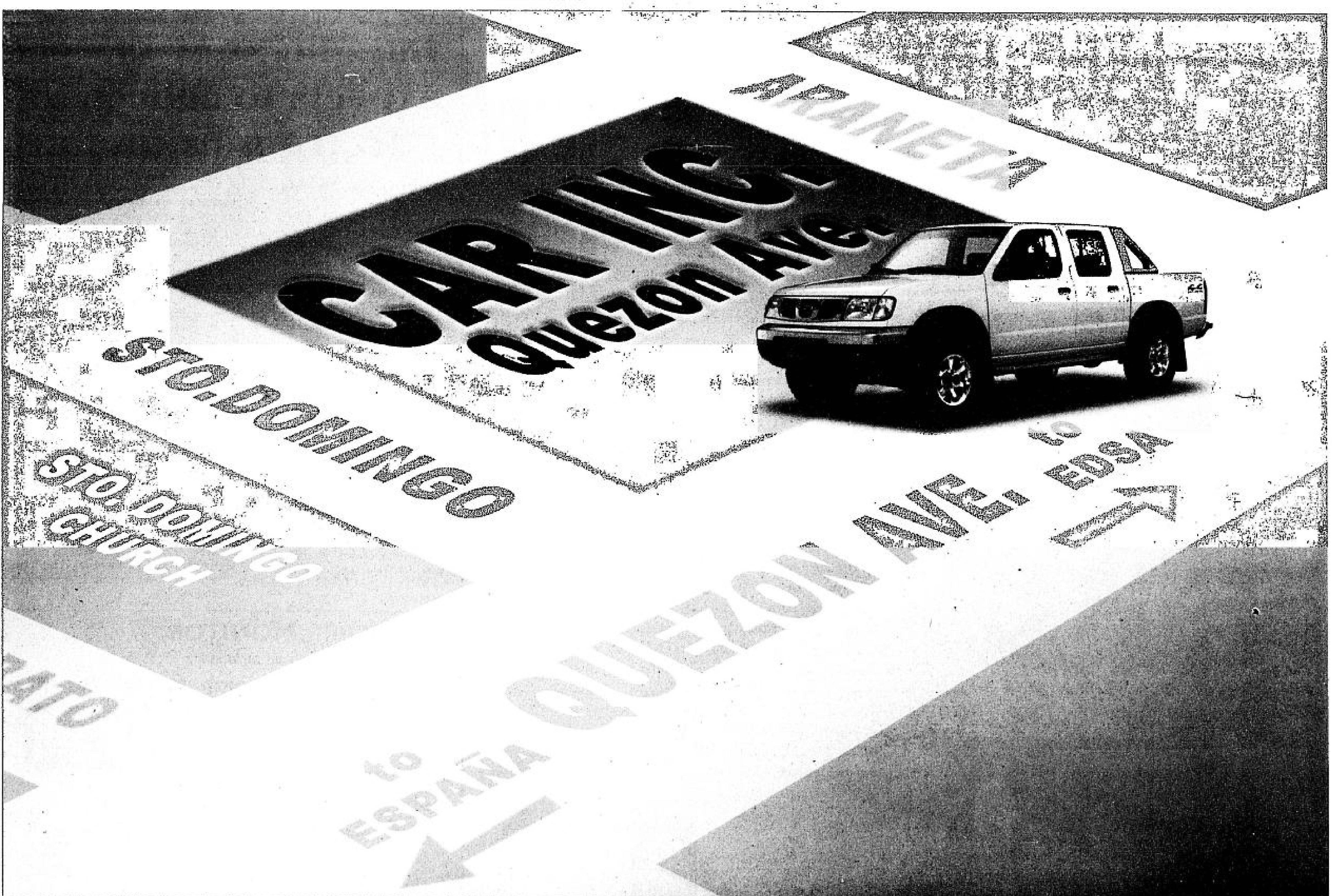

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Gov't to relax leasehold conditions on real estate

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE MACAPAGAL administration is moving to allow businessmen, especially foreign, to liquidate or mortgage their leasehold rights on real estate to further attract foreign investor interest in the country as well as help existing investors to cope with the economic slowdown.

Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas II said the government wanted to give foreign investors certain privileges of land ownership such as transacting or encumbering these assets even though these properties were only leased.

The Department of Trade and Industry and Department of Finance are currently leading efforts to create a template or guide for leaseholders to cash in on their rights. The Cabinet has already been apprised of the DTI-DOF proposal.

Roxas said the guide would list down the requirements mandated on foreign leaseholders before they could sell or mortgage their rights to other businessmen.

Roxas said the courts have allowed foreign leaseholders in some cases to sell or mortgage their rights in the past. The DTI and DOF are closely coordinating with the Department of Justice and Land Registration Authority in formulating the business guide.

"These provisions have been tested by jurisprudence in the past and as long as leaseholders comply with the provisions mandated by law, we see no reason why they can't use their rights as if they owned the property," Roxas said.

He said leasehold rights were liberally traded in other countries such as Japan, Singapore and Malaysia. Roxas said there was no reason why leaseholders should be prevented from maximizing the economic value of their rights since they would only be selling or mortgaging up to the extent of their contract.

Foreigners normally occupy land on a long-term lease in the country because they are barred from owning real estate under the Constitution. The Estrada administration had earlier proposed to revise the Constitution, including the liberalization of land ownership in the country. The plan, however, was met with strong opposition.

ROXAS

Germany pledges funding worth ₱2B

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINES has secured close to P2 billion in new bilateral financing package from Germany for the country's entrepreneurship and manpower development programs.

In an interview, National Economic Development Authority officer-in-charge Gilbert Llanto said the Germans, who were closely monitoring the impacts of recent US terrorist attacks, gave their assurance that these external developments would not affect Germany's bilateral assistance to the country.

In fact, he said that Germany pledged a new package of financial and technical assistance for this year and next year, which would amount to 75.4 DM (P1.8 billion).

The new bilateral financial and technical deal was signed by Germany and the Philippines last Friday.

Llanto said a portion of the new package aimed to bring manpower skills to a more competitive level in preparation to the expected increase in manpower demand from the utility and manufacturing sectors.

He said the package would also include assistance to small and medium enterprises, the backbone of the domestic economy.

The latest survey conducted by the National Statistics Office showed that there were about 820,960 SMEs in operation in the country, employing about 6 million people.

In terms of employment generation, micro, small and medium establishments absorbed 69.6 percent of the workers in the formal sector. The same survey showed that 30.4 percent of the workers in the country were employed by large establishments.

"The Germans will be working very closely with the private sector," Llanto said.

Also, the Neda executive said the Germans were ready to help the country in increasing its supply of skilled seafarers. He noted that Germany has agreed to complement the government's efforts to upgrade the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy (PMMA).

"Merchant seafarers are a big source of resources because of their dollar remittances. But now Filipino seafarers face stiff competition from seafarers from other countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh and Indonesia," Llanto said.

The new German package, Llanto said, also included measures to reduce poverty, improve public health and enhance waste disposal of local government units.

Around 95 percent of the financial assistance pledged by Germany consisted of soft loans to be repaid by the Philippines over a 40-year period, including a 10-year grace period, at a concessional interest rate of 0.75 percent per year.

The remaining 5 percent of the total financial assistance package, he said, would consist of bilateral grants.

Llanto explained that the German assistance would be coursed through government agencies such as the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) and the Commission on Higher Education.

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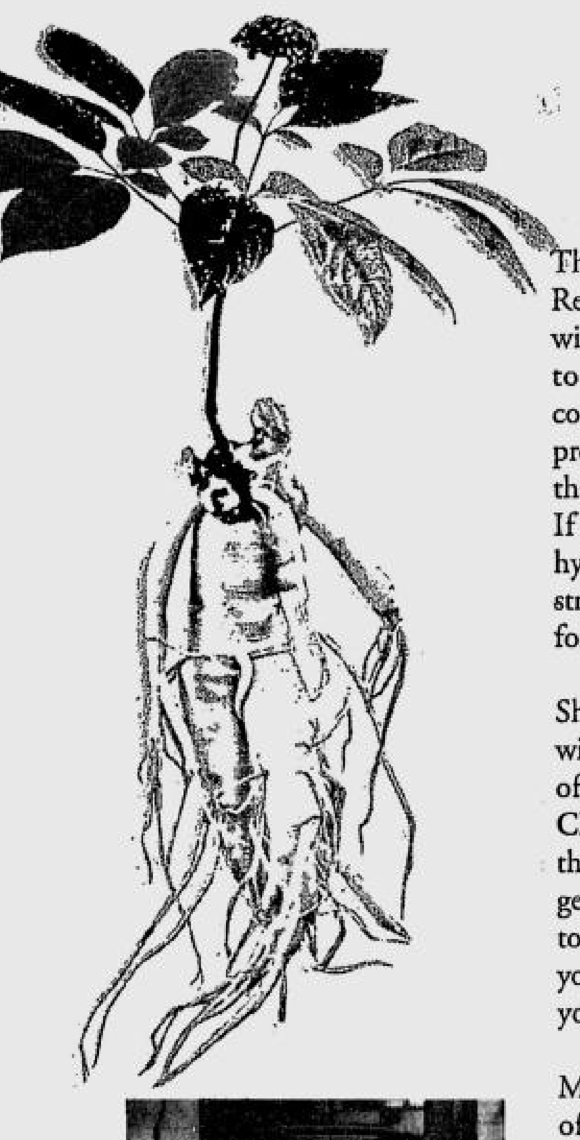

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Commies' sham case versus Bt corn

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

ABOUT 25 years ago, I planted 30 hectares of corn on my farm in the foothills of Mount Isarog at the far edge of my hometown, Naga City. I wanted to raise corn yield in the area by supplying farmers with registered seeds. All of us would make more money.

The project was a disaster. First, the weather had to cooperate and there was nothing you could do if it did not. Then, every step—land preparation, planting, fertilizing, weeding, spraying, harvesting, storing, shelling, and, finally, marketing—had to be taken with precise timing. Above all, I was constantly fighting army worms, cut worms, leaf rollers, corn borers, and corn ear worms. After two cropping seasons, I realized corn farming was far riskier than insurance. I cut my losses and decided to concentrate on selling insurance.

This is why I am interested in the sham case raised by communist front organizations disguised as farmers groups against Bt corn. These groups warn us of impoverished corn farmers scratching out a living from a devastated and poisoned land.

What is Bt corn? Bt stands for Bacillus thuringiensis, a bacterium used as a biological insecticide marketed worldwide for control of many plant pests, mainly caterpillars of butterflies and moths. If you buy a biological insecticide from any agricultural supply store, the chances are it contains Bt.

Bt corn, first marketed in 1996, is genetically engineered to contain the toxin-producing gene of the Bacillus thuringiensis. Each and every cell of Bt corn is toxic, but only to the target insects. When a caterpillar attacks and feeds on a Bt corn plant, the alkalinity of the caterpillar's gut activates the toxin that kills the pest. The farmer saves on insecticide and spraying equipment. He need not patrol his farm for any signs of pests. Bt corn has its own round-the-clock, built-in defense against pests.

The old-time spraying of insecticides is very inefficient. Most of the insecticides falls on the ground and wasted. The spray kills not only the targeted but also the non-targeted insects. Above all, spraying is dangerous to the farmer's health.

There was a furor over a lab test in the States that killed monarch butterflies fed with Bt corn pollen. Field tests now going on show that toxicity to monarch butterflies is minimal. Final results are expected in a couple of months.

Last year, American farmers planted 20 million acres (8 million hectares) of Bt corn. So, it is not as if American corn seed producers want to foist on the Philippines something that has not worked in the States.

But why are field tests being run here if Bt corn has already been proven successful elsewhere? Because Bt corn that is effective on the European corn borer may not be effective on the Mindanao borer. If it works on the Mindanao borer, it may not work on the Cebu or Ilocos or Bicol borer.

Commies claim that the farmer will have to buy the weed killer Roundup from the seed producer, raising production costs. If he is going to plant expensive Bt corn seeds, and make more money, he had better protect his field with the best weed killer available.

The farmer used to save the best ears of his corn crop for seeds for the next season, but usually lost 50-80 percent of these seeds to pests and vermin. Nowadays, he sells his entire crop. He does not store seeds. In due time, he goes to the store to buy seeds. Today, seed production is a specialized line of farming.

If Bt corn will succeed in fighting Philippine pests, and there is every reason that it will, then corn yield will rise. Farmers will have more income. There will be less need to import corn for our poultry and livestock.

Commies keep saying Bt corn is another attempt by multinational companies at huge profits that will eventually impoverish even more our poor farmers. Commies are scared the field tests will succeed. The poor farmers will then make more money and will be less vulnerable to commie propaganda.

Commies are mouthing issues raised by Europeans. But Europeans have no problem on food security and nutritional value. So, they are more concerned with the environment and human health. A Third World country like the Philippines, struggling to feed a fast-growing populace, should rank food security as its topmost priority.

If Bt corn were available 25 years ago, I would probably still be a money-making corn farmer today.

Bangko Sentral expects to collect ₱3B from Equitable

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas said it was expecting Equitable PCI Bank to settle this week P3 billion out of the P13 billion unpaid portion of the P30-billion emergency assistance that the commercial bank availed itself of last year.

Equitable PCI obtained P30 billion in emergency loans from the BSP to meet heavy withdrawals the bank experienced at the height of the "juetengate" scandal that also involved former President Estrada's alleged accounts with the bank.

Of the total loan, Equitable PCI Bank has so far paid P17 billion.

BSP Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said Equitable PCI has informed the central bank that it might be able to pay as much as P3 billion within this week to reduce its outstanding obligations.

Reyes said the bank was able to realize significant earnings from its dollar remittance business. Part of the gains, he said, would be used to pay portion of Equitable PCI's loans with the central bank.

But an Equitable PCI official said that in view of the uncertainties in the global financial markets due to the terrorist attacks on the US, there was also the possibility that the bank might opt to hold on to its cash and wait for the market to calm down.

Equitable PCI committed to pay the rest of its obligations this year although some sources said it might take the bank until the first quarter next year to fully settle its debts with the BSP.

Equitable PCI, however, wanted to retire its obligations with the BSP at the soonest time because the central bank loan bears interest rates based on treasury bill rates plus three percentage points.

Sources said the lender, at times, borrows funds from the interbank market that imposes rates lower than that of the BSP.

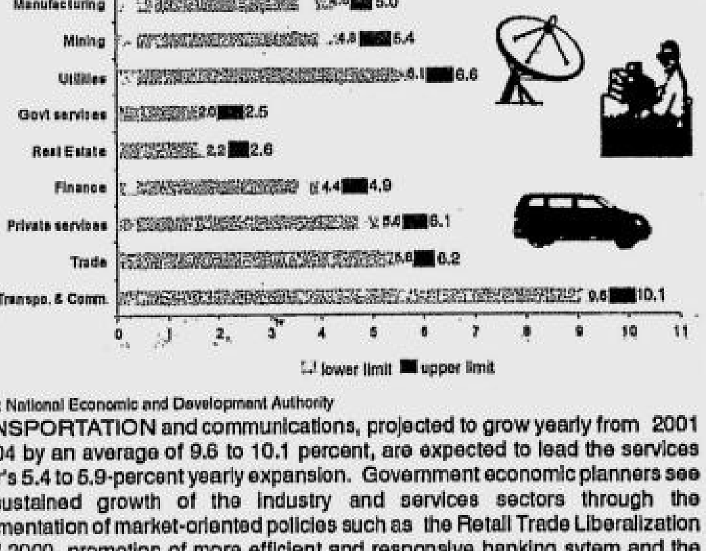
The BSP said it was flexible and that it would not mind if there would be minor delays in the payment schedule of Equitable PCI. "As long as the effort to pay is there, we don't mind if they will move the schedule a bit," said BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura earlier.

INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

Average annual growth forecast for RP's industrial & services subsectors*

(2001 to 2004, in percent)



Source: National Economic and Development Authority

TRANSPORTATION and communications, projected to grow yearly from 2001 to 2004 by an average of 9.6 to 10.1 percent, are expected to lead the services sector's 5.4 to 5.9-percent yearly expansion. Government economic planners see the sustained growth of the industry and services sectors through the implementation of market-oriented policies such as the Retail Trade Liberalization Act of 2000, promotion of more efficient and responsive banking sytem and the expedition of pending legislation particularly bills on investment incentives.

Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

GSIS eyes P10-B stock fund for foreign investors

By Clarissa S. Batino

STATE-OWNED Government Service Insurance System is reviewing its stock market investments and studying the setting up of a P10-billion "index fund" to attract mostly foreign investors.

GSIS president and general manager Winston Garcia said the pension fund for public employees would like to consolidate its stock investments in a basket comprised of listed firms representative of the Philippine Stock market index.

He said the investment would be made once the local bourse has started showing signs of recovery.

Mostly comprised of blue chip stocks, the index fund, according to Garcia, would operate similar to a mutual fund where the shares of the basket could be sold to investors. He said the GSIS would target mostly foreign investors to purchase shares in the fund.

"The basket will be set with the Phisix as the benchmark since foreign investors do no look at individual stocks but at the index. The investor can buy or sell units from the basket similar to the procedures of a mutual fund," Garcia said.

The state-owned fund had been trying to engage in innovative investment strategies after sustaining losses of P10 billion from the stock market since last year.

Garcia earlier said the GSIS was also planning to venture into real estate and higher yielding debt instruments with an initial P10-billion investment. The pension fund would use its P150 billion in investible funds to finance its new ventures.

"I would like the index fund to be worth initially a conservative P8 billion to P10 billion. Right now, the GSIS has investments in 20 issues," he said.

Garcia added that the insurer of state-owned assets would start to consult with private underwriters who would help design the index fund.

He said the plan to venture into other investments where returns were seen to be much higher in the long run was to help recover about P10 billion in losses from investments in the stock market.

The GSIS wanted to spend at least P5 billion to buy idle state-owned pieces of property at one-third of its value to create more value for its more than 1.5 million members.

With only P5 billion, Garcia said he could buy P15 billion worth of real estate assets. He said government corporations might agree to sell at a discount since these agencies from which he intended to buy were also cash-strapped.

Garcia said he has also asked state-owned Land Bank of the Philippines to help the GSIS design a securitization program for its P70-billion loan portfolio that earns a yield of only about 11 percent.

The GSIS, he said, was planning to issue P5 billion worth of five-year debt notes using its loan portfolio as collateral. The proceeds would, in turn, be used to buy higher yielding treasury bills or bonds.

He said even a two to three percentage point gain from the difference between its borrowing and the yield of the government securities would mean a lot to the GSIS members.

Assessing . . .

(From page B5)

drop. Conventional wisdom may be wrong. There is a strong general sentiment among fund managers as well as the investing public that to sell shares would be unpatriotic, as it would show fear in the face of the terrorist attacks. Sectors such as airlines, hotels, insurance companies and entertainment will probably be hit hard. Defense related may rise. My gut feeling is that a "wait and see" attitude will prevail overall. If there is no large drop on the opening, prices may be relatively stable. Having said that, the market is still headed much lower over the medium term. Our stock market also is headed lower with support at 1170 and then 1050.

Over the next weeks, huge amounts of cash will be pumped into the system. The Federal Reserve will most likely cut interest rates long before the October Open Market Committee meeting. Already $40 billion has been made available and Congress will authorize at least another $40 billion to "repair" New York. The immediate effects of being out of business for a week are large. However, holiday shopping is going to start very shortly, which may be a medium-term positive. The amount of consumer spending will be a function of the "wartime" mentality that may develop over the next weeks.

The global consequences are going to depend on the US response. Make no mistake that there are two objectives involved. The short-term goal is to find and eradicate those who committed this single act.

The long-term aim is to eliminate terrorism as a viable form of warfare.

Initially, the two major economic concerns are oil prices and the dollar/gold price. Oil prices will skyrocket if Islamic solidarity takes precedence over rational economic thinking. Afghanistan does have Saudi Arabia and Pakistan as allies. Saudi supplies much of the money; Pakistan supplies access to goods. Both will come under extreme pressure from the US to cooperate. The dollar will face continued difficulty that will hurt exports to the US. Gold may see a dramatic price rise unless the G-7 cartel/monopoly can continue to keep the gold price fixed. There are reports that as much as $650 million worth of gold and silver is buried under the rubble, stores from the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Locally, Philippine Airlines will suffer, as *balikbayan* travel will grind to a halt. Likewise, local hotels will feel a drop of business. Exports to the US will fall somewhat. Still, the immediate concern is crude oil and fortunately, with Malampaya coming on stream soon, it may give us a small (maybe 10 percent) cushion on our crude imports.

For the President to be in Japan encouraging investment is a sad coincidence and a waste of effort. Nothing will be moving for the next few months. Our government ought to be in crisis session right now, looking at contingency plans as events unfold over the coming weeks. I fear that will not be the case and the government may fail us again. If things turn sour, the Philippines could suffer greatly. To all the pundits that have said, "If the US sneezes, we catch cold," what happens to us, and the world, if the US gets pneumonia? I wonder if Malacañang is thinking about that?

(John Mangun can be reached at 636-1121 to 35, Fax No. 634-2349 or e-mail at johnmangun @yahoo.com.)

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Manila

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Thursday, Sept 13, at 7:00 pm
Fri, Sept 14, at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Sat, Sept 15 at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Sunday, Sept 16 at 12:00 noon
Location: Hyatt Regency, 2702 Roxas Blvd. Pasay City P.O. Box 2462 Manila, Luzon Island
Tel: 63-2-8331234

Manila

Dates & Times:
Sun, Sept 16, at 7:00 pm
Mon, Sept 17, at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Tues, Sept 18, at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Location: Shangri-la Makati, Ayala Ave/Makati Ave, Makati City, Metro Manila
Tel: 63-32-8138888

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TAN YAN KEE

Gives a big hand to the 4th Batch of U

The TAN YAN KEE Foundation, Inc. awarded 77 scholarships to UE freshmen for the first semester, SY 2001-2002. T National Capital Region. The scholars were selected from entering UE freshmen who obtained the highest scores in committee of the respective colleges of their choice. Of the 77 scholars, 27 chose to specialize in Engineering; 20 in

College of Engineering

CHRISTOPHER JAY R. ABABAN
Electronics Communications

RONALD L. ALDEZA
Electronics Communication

RUEL B. ALLANIGUE
Electronics Communication

ROMPY P. AVILES
Electronics Communication

JAN RALPH C. BALBUENA
Electronics Communication

LUTHER C. CHIONG
Electronics Communication

CLARK WILLIAM R. DAYUCOS
Computer

MARK VERNON M. DEGALA
Computer

MARIA FEMIA A. DELA CRUZ
Electronics Communication

BERNARD T. DIAZ
Computer

JESAMINE S. DO
Electronic
Communica

ROY V. LOZANO
Electronics Communications

STALIN M. MANGALINDAN
Electronics Communication

ARIS JOBET A. ODAL
Electronics Communication

ANICETO L. OSTRAS JR.
Mechanical

MARICRIS P. PASCUAL
Civil

JEFFREY M. PETRONIO
Electronics Communication

JOSAN BRYAN E. QUE
Computer

SHIENNA S. SADIA
Computer

ROXANNE S. SANTANDER
Computer

HERBERT P. SILVESTRE
Mechanical

CRISELDA A.
Electron
Communic

College of Computer Studies and Systems

MARK JAMES A. ABOG
Information Technology

AILEEN AIMEE P. AGAID
Computer Science

GEECEE MAYBELLINE A. ALCANTARA
Computer Science

EDDRYAN S. ARANZANSO
Computer Science

RACHELLE N. CANIEDO
Computer Science

GIANINA JOYCE A. DIZON
Computer Science

DARWIN D. EVANGELISTA
Computer Science

JOSE MILO S. GILLESANIA JR.
Computer Science

AMY CLEOTILDE M. JONSON
Computer Science

CASSANDRA FATIMA D. JOVERES
Computer Science

MATTHEW MELAN D. MAGO
Computer Science

JOANNA ROSE C. MANINANG
Computer Science

AMIEL BRYAN H. MANZANO
Information Technology

AILEEN JOY T. PALOR
Information Technology

SHERYL C. SAN JOSE
Information Technology

MARY GRACE LINELLE B. SANTOS
Computer Science

TERESA MARIE T. TUAZON
Computer Science

JOHN LENNON A. URIARTE
Computer Science

NEIL ADRIAN O. VALDEVILLA
Information Technology

MARLON JESUS B. VALIENTE
Computer Science

College of Arts & Sciences - MANILA

BRYAN RAYMOND V. BOLANTE
Biology

NIÑO V. CABRAL
Physics

JOAHNNA M. CATAM
Mathematics

KRISTINE F. CATIVO
Biology

JEFFREY S. CAWALING
Mathematics

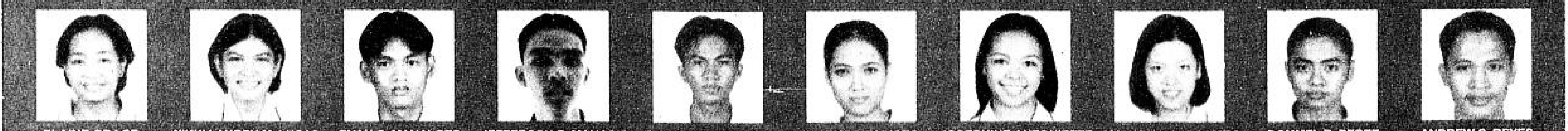
BELINDA A. DALANGIN
Biology

FERRIE ANN IREEN P. DIZA
Biology

EDWARD ALLAN F. FLORES
Biology

ANTHONY REY G. GARCIA
Biology

RODOLFO G. HUBAHIB JR.
Mathematics



ELAINE GRACE B. IGNACIO
Biology

NIKKI LAUREN M. LUCAS
Biology

RYAN C. MANALOTO
Biology

JEFFERSON P. MANAOIS
Biology

ERWIN D. MARASIGAN
Physics

NOEMI C. MOISES
Mathematics

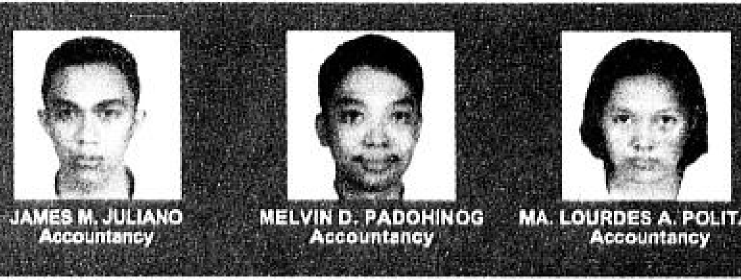
JOSEPHINE ANTONIETTE L. NABIULA
Biology

MA. JONA S. OCAMPO
Biology

ROMMEL R. PEREZ
Mathematics

ANDREW C. REYES
Mathematics

College of Business Administration - MANILA



JAMES M. JULIANO
Accountancy

MELVIN D. PADOHINOG
Accountancy

MA. LOURDES A. POLITADO
Accountancy

College of Business Administration - CALOOCAN

CLARISSA M. CLEMENTE
Accountancy

DARWIN S. OCAMPO
Accountancy

ROSALIE A. OPPUS
Accountancy

College Of Dentistry

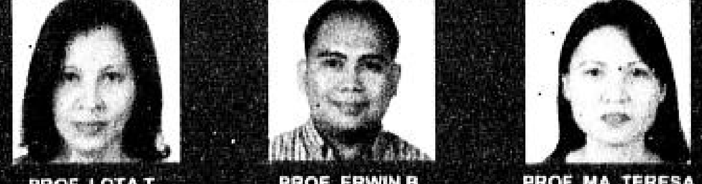
MARIGOLD ROSE T. ALMORADIE
Dentistry

ANNE MARGARET H. GONZALEZ
Dentistry

FAYE B. GUMABAY
Dentistry

MA. KRISELDA N. SAYOC
Dentistry

Graduate Scholars



PROF. LOTA T. BILLONES
Master's Degree

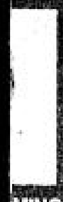
PROF. ERWIN B. BERMILLO
Master's Degree

PROF. MA. TERESA P. FRANCISCO
Master's Degree

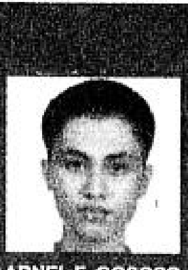
FOUNDATION, INC.

UE College Scholars for SY 2001-2002

hese scholars represent a wide geographical mix: 35 from Luzon, 2 from the Visayas, 2 from Mindanao and 38 from the
the UE Entrance Examination. They also passsed rigorous qualifying exams and personal interviews by the scholarship
Computer Science/ Information Technology; 20 in Mathematics and Natural Science; 6 in Accounting and 4 in Dentistry.

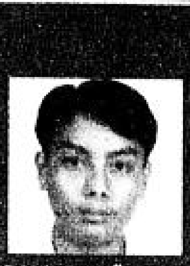


MINGO
ion



ARNEL F. GOSOSO
Civil

CYRUS R. HORNOPIA
Electronics
Communication



DANILO O. IÑIGO JR.
Electronics
Communication

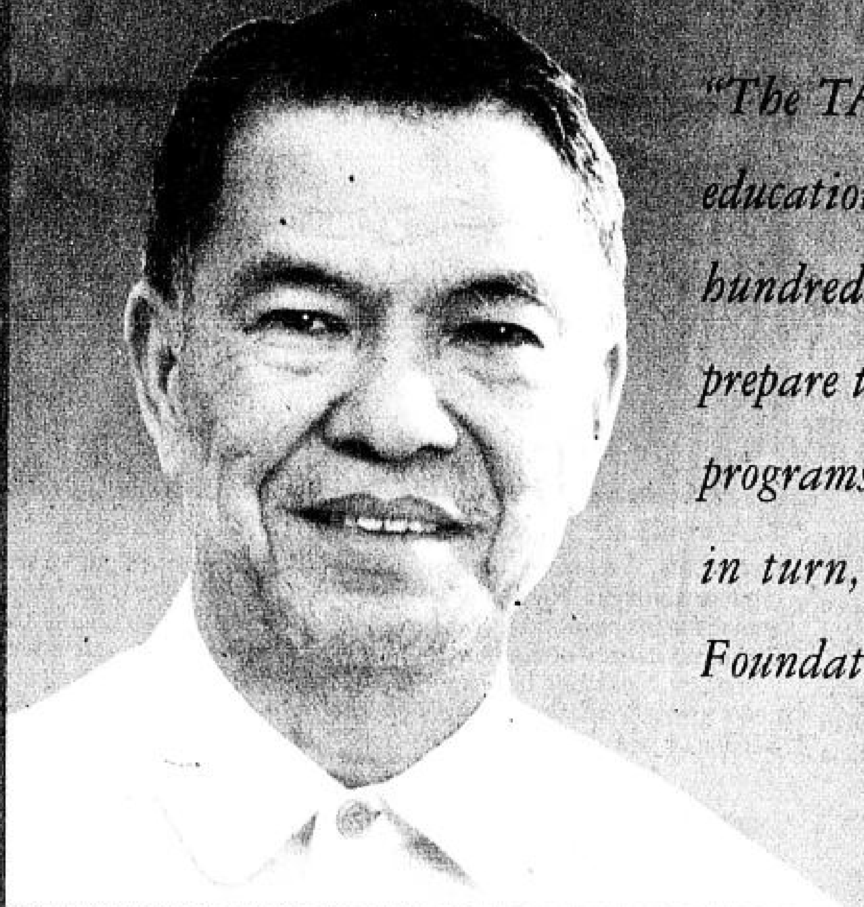
SUYAT
cs
ation

ARMILYNDA B. SWAN
Computer

FERDINAND L. TUTANES
Civil

RECOGNITION OF SCHOLARS
TAN YAN KEE FOUNDATION, INC.

Tan Yan Kee Foundation Inc., continuing scholars (1st to 3rd Batch)



> *"The TAN YAN KEE Foundation commits itself to uplifting the quality of life and education of Filipinos. Hand-in-hand with the University of the East, we reach out to hundreds of underprivileged youths every year. We provide them quality education to prepare them for the challenges of the future. I enjoin our scholars to complete their degree programs so they may become leaders in their chosen professions. Someday, I hope that you, in turn, will share your wisdom and hand out the same generosity bestowed by the Foundation towards our fellow Filipinos."*

LUCIO C. TAN
Chairman and President

About the Foundation

n honor of a great man who handed down the values that inspired their remarkable success, Dr. Lucio C. Tan and his siblings established he TAN YAN KEE Foundation in 1986 to help enhance the quality of life and education of disadvantaged Filipinos.

Handing nearly P1-billion to various causes, the TAN YAN KEE Foundation initiated the construction of school buildings, hospitals, churches ind houses for the homeless. It also provides generous support for calamity assistance, livelihood programs, environment protection, anti-rime /anti-drug crusades, medical research and other notable projects.

ending a hand to underprivileged but deserving students, the Foundation also tied-up with the University of the East to give the youth a hance to acquire good education. For the period 1998-2003, the TAN YAN KEE Foundation earmarked P100-million for one of the most oveted scholarship programs in the country.

Two kinds of grants are given by the TAN YAN KEE Scholarship program. First is for undergraduate students specializing in the fields of Mathematics, Science, Information Technology, Engineering and other technical courses. The other program is for faculty members who want to take masters or doctorate degree courses to enhance their teaching skills and qualifications. Both programs emphasized on various disciplines that would greatly contribute to the country's progress.

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People, Events & Products

Aries B. Espinosa, Assistant Editor

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Rewards to curb rice smuggling

THE TWIN proposals by the National Food Authority to use a reward system and sell confiscated rice at low price to the poor hoped to further strengthen the government's effort to curb rice and corn smuggling and at the same time benefit the marginalized sector of the society.

In a proposal to Agriculture Secretary Leonardo Q. Montemayor, NFA administrator Tony Abad is recommending that a representation be made with the Bureau of Customs (BOC) to put a reward system that will give to an asset or informer a certain percentage of the estimated value of the shipment already confiscated, seized or declared abandoned.

The reward will be given to an asset or informer whether government agent or civilian.

The use of the reward system is expected to open up information on illegal shipments and complement the agreement signed between the NFA and BOC reinforcing cooperation and assistance between the two agencies in the drive to fight against rice smuggling.

Pertinent provisions of the agreement includes the issuance of NFA import permit for rice imports, transport permit prior to transferring rice coastwise or in-land transport and the designation of a specific port of entry or discharge of the commodity that disallows discharging of rice imports in any subport or private port or wharf.

In line with the thrust of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to give the poor access to good quality rice at low price, Abad is also proposing to have all confiscated, seized or abandoned commodities, including rice and sugar, be channeled through the NFA Rolling Stores, Tindahang Bayan and other outlets designated for the Targeted Rice Distribution Program and Coconut Farmers Food Access Program (TRDP/CFFAP).

CFFAP is being implemented in coconut producing provinces especially affected by the slumping price of coconut products, while TRDP is being pilot tested in three major cities including Davao, Cebu and Metro Manila and in the provinces considered poor and relatively rice deficit.

The TRDP and CFFAP are being jointly implemented by the NFA with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development which aims to give the poorest sectors of society priority access to quality government rice at a price affordable to them.

COCOLIFE'S CABBUAG GOES TO SYDNEY

Cocolife's Spectacular Sydney 2000, a motivational sales competition which offered a trip to Sydney, Australia as grand prize had Juan Cabbuag as one of the top three sales performers. Cabbuag was also the branch manager of the year for the Northeast Luzon Area. With Cabbuag during the awarding ceremonies are Efren Yambot, first vice president of individual marketing division; Alfredo Tumacder, president; Cabbuag; Regidor Miraflor, vice president, sales and Marco Montes, AVP for sales.

My Special Valentine
Nokia 3310 Raffl
May 31, 20

MSV DRAW

DTI representative Ma. Elvira Sagat (second from right) is seen with Ellen Lambinicio, Dottie Pineda and Lerma Scu of Bookware Publishing Corp. during the recent monthly draw of the Nokia 3310 raffle promo held at the company's offices in Pasig City. For the readers of My Special Valentine (MSV) pocketbooks, the lucky winner was Diana Belaya of Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. MSV also announces that it's still accepting manuscripts from new romance novelists. For details, call 631-8893-94.

Mindanao confab reset

THE MUCH-AWAITED 10th Mindanao Business Conference, which was supposed to be held this month in Cotabato City, has been reset to Sept. 20 to 22 to maximize the presence of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

This was disclosed over the weekend by Dr. Danda N. Juanday, secretary general of the 10th Mindanao Business Conference when Malacañang scheduled a presidential trip to the BIM countries despite an earlier confirmation in May that the President would grace the conference.

"Many of the resource speakers of the conference are also going with the President on her trip," Juanday added. "This will greatly affect the conference since the speakers will have to be downgraded.

Allaying fears that foreign businessmen might not be coming if the conference will be re-scheduled, Dr. Juanday is hopeful that seven weeks would be enough time for businessmen to rearrange their schedules. The Secretariat is now conducting intensive re-information activities with the help of the media, the information offices of the different government line agencies and partner institutions.

"With this postponement, we are projecting 700 participants instead of the 300-400," Dr. Juanday said.

KIKKOMAN TO PUBLISH CREATIVE COOKBOOK

Kikkoman, through its distributor in the Philippines, Sysu International, recently signed a contract with Anvil Publishing for the printing of the 'Creative Cooking Cookbook', a compilation of award winning recipes. The cookbook promises to be one-of-a-kind, featuring nouvelle Filipino cuisine, international cuisine and desserts and printed in full color, with a full page photo for every recipe. Shown signing the contract are (seated, from left) Koji Kawakami, country representative, Kikkoman Asia, Pte. Ltd.; Korina A. Bolasco, publishing manager, Anvil Publishing Inc.; Jennifer Sy, marketing manager, Sysu International, (standing from left) Peachy Buñag, president, Adsystems International and Maita Villaroel, Kikkoman brand manager.

CCIP MEETS LOREN

Senator Loren Legarda-Leviste, chair of the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs, committed to pursue policy legislation beneficial to the Chamber of Cosmetics Industry of the Philippines as she met with the officers and directors during its recent general membership meeting. Shown are (from left) Frank Ang, director/president of Vibelle Mfg. Corp.; Leopoldo Viola, director/president of Leo Mers; Jessica Plana, secretary/president of Euro Chemicals Inc.; Kathleen S. Lior, president/president of KSL Development Corp.; Cristy Mendoza, director/VP for marketing, House of Sara Lee; Fred Pizarro; director/corporate service director, Amway Phils; Cesar Malonzo, treasurer/president of Quantrum Laboratory; Ernie Calalang, director/logistics manager, Wella Phils.

Quality education at MGC-New Life Christian Academy

QUALITY education is the best gift a parent can give to a child. In line with this principle, MGC-New Life Christian Academy was established. With its faith and vision, MGC-New Life Christian Academy has developed children into socially adjusted, well-behaved and God-fearing persons.

MGC-New Life Christian Academy takes pride in its facilities such as spacious, fully air-conditioned classrooms, well-stocked and fully air-conditioned library, audio-visual room, music room, art room, computer room, canteen, clinic and gym/multi-purpose hall are designed to provide the most conducive learning environment for all students.

Early this year, another feather has been added to its cap. The MGC-New Life Christian Academy Batch 2000-2001 students placed first in the National Elementary Achievement Test (NEAT), private school, Makati City division.

For more information, call 812-3909 and 813-4232 and look for the school registrar or visit MGC-New Life Christian Academy at 7650 dela Rosa Street, Pio del Pilar, Makati City.

LOREN LEGARDA-LEVISTE

TEAMING UP FOR A GREENER PHILIPPINES

Coca-Cola has teamed up with Luntiang Pilipinas, a nongovernment organization chaired by Senate Majority Leader Loren Legarda-Leviste, in an ecological initiative to fill all 52 exit loops of the North and South Luzon Expressways with new trees. Different business enterprises have been invited to sponsor at least one loop each. Each loop will be planted with about 15,000 new saplings, in effect becoming the 'lungs' of the metropolis. Shown above is Senator Legarda-Leviste with Coca-Cola Philippines president James Harting.

KIDS EXPLORE ISRAEL

KIDS EXPLORE ISRAEL

Israel Embassy's first secretary Hagit Ben-Yaakov (fourth from left) and incoming second secretary, Roi Dvir spent a day with the children of the Philippine Children's Medical Center in Quezon City. The children enjoyed learning about Israel through the website www.mfa.gov.il. They were joined by members of the hospital board led by Dr. Lilian Lee, director of PCMC and Dr. Sonia Sarcia, deputy director; Zeny Ubaldo, (second from left) president of the Shalom Club Philippines in 1999-2000 and several officers and members were also present in bringing cheer to hospital children.

Geodetic engineers elect new board

THE ASSOCIATION of Jr. Geodetic Engineers of the Philippines Inc. (Ajgepi) recently elected its new set of officers for 2001, headed by engineer Eldred P. Tombocon, vice mayor of Umingan, Pangasinan, as president.

The other officers elected were engineer Jeanette S. Co, vice president; engineer Reynaldo A. Carpio, chair for Luzon; engineer Ruben T. Malig, chair for Visayas; engineer Alezander R. Barcarse, chair for Mindanao; engineer Andres R. Rea, executive secretary; engineer Edwin S. Glemao, treasurer; engineer Ronald Rubio, PRO; engineer Bayani Caguioa, sergeant at arms.

Members of the board are Dany D. Liwanag, Edilbert S. Singian; Edwin S. Mancenido, Alma C. dela Cruz, Gregorio M. Monreal and Frank M. Cale, immediate past president and ex officio.

The committee on elections is headed by Dr. Anselmo D. Almazan, president of the Society of Filipino Geodetic Engineers Inc. (SFGEI).

President Tombocon said the Ajgepi is seeking to amend Section 23, Article V, Practice of Geodetic Engineering and Repeal of Sub-Sections (B) and (C) Section 30 Article VI General Provision of Republic Act 8560 entitled "An Act Regulating the Practice Geodetic Engineering in the Philippines.

According to vice president Co, RA 8560 provides to phase-out some 6500 juinior geodetic engineers registered in the PRC pursuant to Sub-section (C) of Section 30 of RA 8560 that will be reinforced five years after the effectivity of the law without any provision of upgrading. Carpio said this is an unlawful provision of RA 8560 because it will violate the Constitutional rights of the junior geodetic engineers who have already acquired vested right of their professions and therefore all junior geodetic engineers should be upgraded to geodetic engineers by registration without examination.

RIZAL HIGH GETS NEW DESKS

Former President Corazon C. Aquino with the Linden Suites chair and president Carlos G. Dominguez and general manager Justin R. Philips lead the formal turnover ceremony of the 150 desks donated by The Linden Suites to the Rizal High School on Aug. 14. Years back, Rizal High School made it to the Guinness Book of Records with the largest number of enrolled students exceeding the 20,000 mark. Now, it is also known as the oldest and one of the poorest educational institutions in Pasig City.

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BBFI, BMSI SUPPORT LITERACY PROGRAM

Bato Balani Foundation (BBFI) and Belgosa Media Systems Inc. (BMSI) support GMA Foundation's (GMAF) Literacy Enhancement program by donating P1 million worth of assorted books and journals to GMAF's Donate A Book (DAB) last May. Books gathered by DAB will benefit public school and barangay libraries nationwide through GMAF'S Karunungan Karavan project. Shown is GMAF executive director Carmen Jimenez-Ong (fourth from left) receiving the donation from BBFI Board of Trustees member Amada Javellana (fifth from left) and BMSI executive director Jun Calditaran. Also present during the turnover are (from left) Shaun Tajon, GMAF project officer for DAB; Lorena Pechay, DAB project staff, Jullie Gallos, GMAF operations manager; Elaine Go-Mapa, BBFI executive director and Suzette Relucio, BMSI marketing staff.

TRIBUTE TO LEO

Leo Valdez, who plays the role of the engineer in Mackintosh's Miss Saigon, currently showing in Singapore, flew back to Manila recently as Aliw Awards pays tribute to him for his exemplary performance. Leo (left) is congratulated by Butch Albarracin (right), president of the Center for Pop Music Philippines, one of the members of the Aliw board of judges during the Aliw Awards presentation held recently at Westin Philippine Plaza hotel.

Maynilad hits MWSS chief

MAYNILAD Water Services Inc. president Rafael M. Alunan III said on Saturday that the statement of MWSS Administrator Jose Mabanta (that appeared Saturday's issue of the INQUIRER) misrepresented the situation concerning the petition of Maynilad for regulatory relief in the light of its staggering foreign exchange losses, which the government has acknowledged was unforeseen.

"Maynilad is in fact directly communicating with a special committee that Malacañang formed to look into the petition, after the MWSS elevated it to President Macapagal-Arroyo and the Cabinet for review and approval. The committee counts the participation of senior Cabinet level officials who are working hand-in-hand with the MWSS board of trustees," Alunan said.

Alunan said the thrust of the negotiations was to save the concession from collapse by addressing serious concerns raised by the company's lenders about the project's immediate bankability and future viability.

Negotiations with MWSS began a year ago with the Estrada administration. But when the Arroyo administration took over after EDSA II, and after approving in principle to grant Maynilad's petition, the MWSS elevated the matter to the Cabinet in February. Since then, Maynilad has been negotiating with various Cabinet and sub-Cabinet officials that were designated to review the matter.

Alunan added that the issue of an auto-Cera similar to other utilities as mentioned by Mabanta was misleading, as it was not a feature of the relief package. "In fact," Alunan said, "he failed to cite that a key feature is a mechanism for gradualism to mitigate the impact on consumers."

Gov't considering new plant privatization tack

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE GOVERNMENT mulls the individual sale of some of the state-run National Power Corp.'s power plants to make their sale more attractive to prospective buyers.

Energy Secretary Vicente Perez Jr. said last week that the manner of privatization of Napocor's generating assets would be finalized by the middle of next month.

Perez, however, said the working plan was to sell some power plants in clusters or "generation companies" (gencos) and the others as standalone plants.

Perez added that another option being considered was to group the power plants according to type of fuel rather than the location, saying that prospective buyers reportedly preferred such groupings.

"We have yet to act on this but (grouping by fuel type might be) part of the privatization plan because we obviously need to revise the current groupings," he said.

Earlier, Perez said the gencos up for sale would have aggregate capacities of between 250 megawatts and 1,500 mw.

He also said that investors wanted the capacity ceiling lowered.

"Lowering the 1,500-mw limit would create more gencos, which in turn would give local investors more chances to have a crack at the planned biddings," Perez explained.

Psalm Corp. is fast-tracking Napocor's privatization, with the sale of the power firm's assets seen to kick off in the fourth quarter. The final draft of its privatization plan was expected to be presented for Malacañang's approval by November.

Psalm is a government-owned and -controlled corporation that was created to take over the assets and liabilities of the debt-strapped firm by the Electricity Industry Reform Act.

According to a document furnished the INQUIRER, Psalm Corp. planned to start the sale as early as October, as soon as the draft of the privatization plan was completed.

In the same month, the implementing rules of the power law would have been submitted to the Joint Power Commission.

In early December, Psalm would embark on an international roadshow to promote the sale of the assets.

DTI moves to resume . . .

(From page B20)

tion lines at no cost to the company. The contract can be mutually pre-terminated if NSC finds a suitable long-term buyer. Allengoal will put up P100 million cash deposit and performance bond.

Aside from the monthly lease payments, NSC was given the choice of getting at least 40-percent share of the net profits after Allengoal has recovered all its rehabilitation expenses or on the 13th month of the lease agreement, whichever comes first.

But NSC's creditor-banks slammed Hottick-Renong's choice as they questioned Allengoal's capacity to run NSC considering its lack of financial and technical expertise. Creditor-banks were also concerned that the contract would give Allengoal an insider's edge over potential investors to NSC and stop NSC from taking in a partner with a longer-term commitment. The banks want a strategic partner, preferably a slab producer, which would infuse additional capital of $600 million to $1 billion into NSC. They also want NSC's P9 billion debts restructured into 10-year amortizing bonds with the balance to be converted into equity.

But in its proposal, Allengoal said a select group of ex-NSC managers would form the core of the management team while Hatch Associates, a North American engineering and consultancy firm, would provide technical and operating expertise. It claimed that it has tapped the financial backing of one of the largest and most liquid banks in the country, which it did not identify.

Gov't, Tan nearing deal on PNB

(From page B20)

The government has been negotiating with Tan since May but the taipan had refused to budge on his pricing stance preventing the state from retaking a substantial control of the financially ailing bank.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said he has discussed a strategy with Nazareno to convince Tan to relinquish not only management control but also part of his equity in the bank.

Former BSP Governor Jose Cuisia, who recommended the debt-to-equity scheme in PNB, said that if Tan would oppose the plan, the government must pressure him to pay the bank's debts.

While Tan wanted to protect his interest in the bank, the government must also protect the value of its advances to PNB, said Cuisia. With PNB shares trading lower than its par value of P60 per share, the government could not agree to the conversion price that Tan wanted, he added.

The government's equity in PNB was reduced to 16 percent last October from 30.4 percent after Tan infused P10 billion into the bank that effectively increases his stake from 46 percent.

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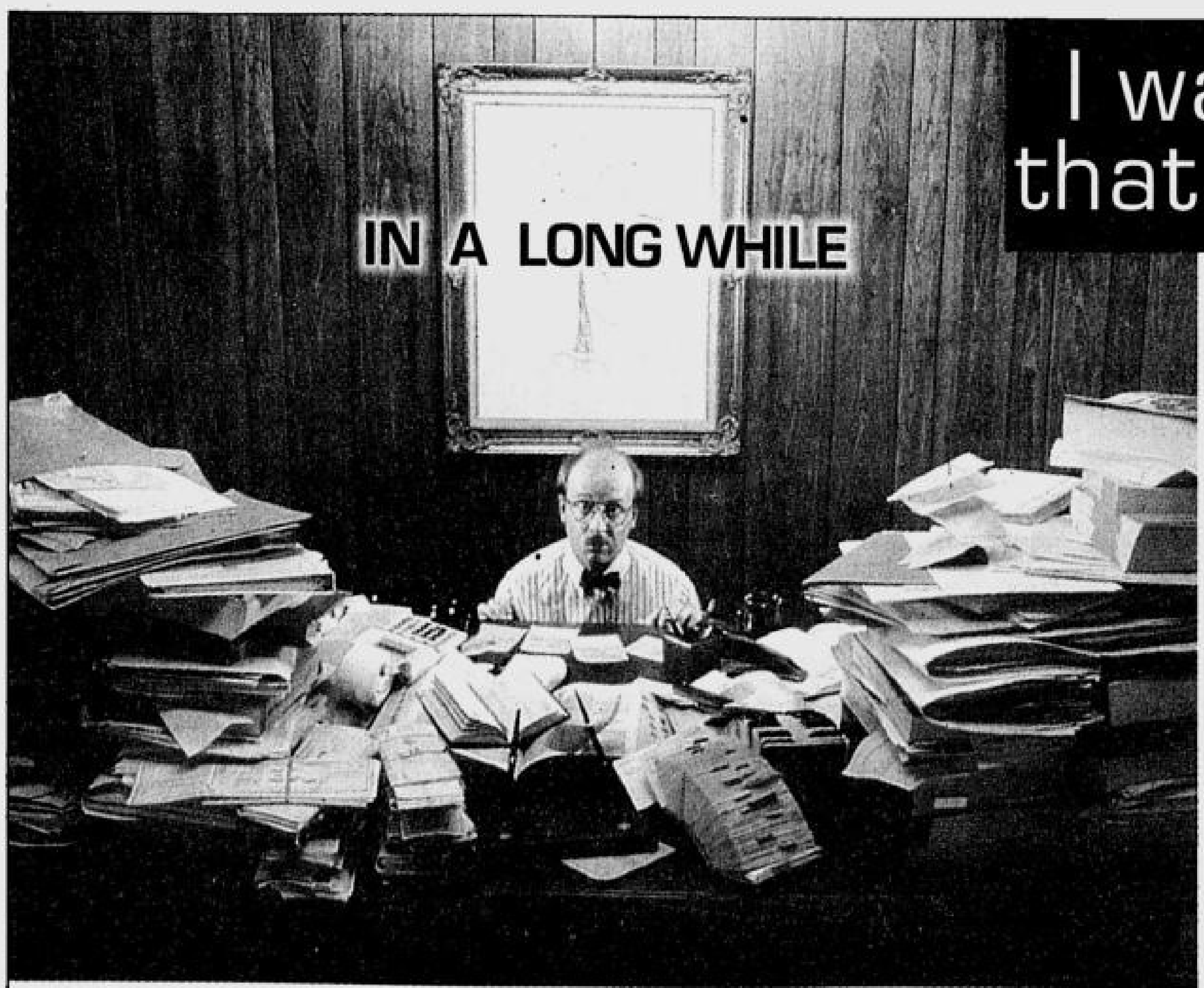

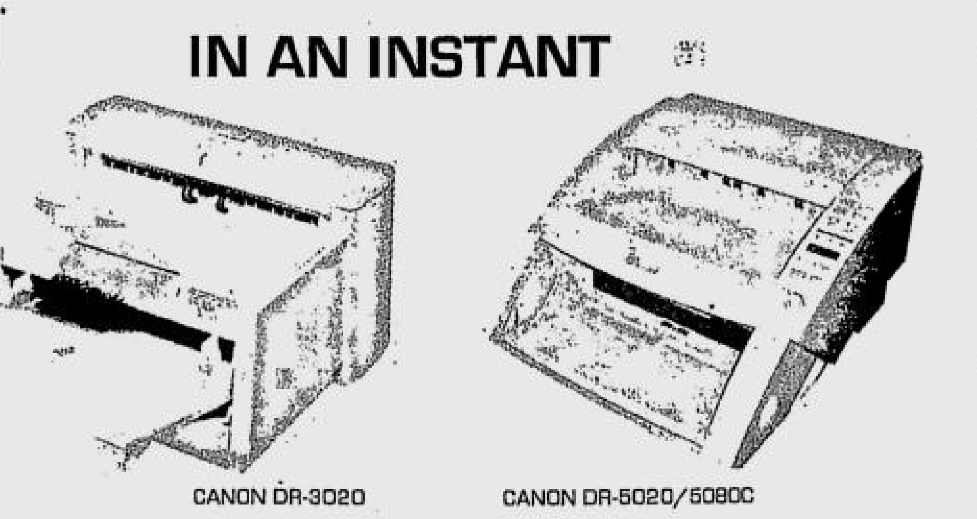

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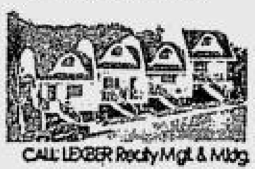

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the Estate of the late EUSTAQUIO ABUEL has been partially settled extrajudicially by the heirs per Doc.330 page67,BkVI series of 2000 bef. not. pub. Atty. Gregorio Dino of Las Pinas City
PDI - Sept. 3,10 & 17,2001

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late RAMON B. GONZALES has been extrajudicially settled with Quit Claim among the heirs as per Doc.#105; Page#21; Book#108; Series of 2001 before ATTY. H.B. BASCO, Notary Public

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Evelina Tiongson Muyot has been extra-judicially settled among her heirs as per Doc.#185; Page#38; Book#3; Series of 2000 before Notary Public Mitos P. Lambino of Quezon City
PDI-Sept. 10, 17, 24, 2001

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that common Class "B" Stock Dividend Cert. No. 11324 issued by SM Development Corp. for 2887 shares under the name of LEONARDO S. CANSANA is missing. If no contest received. New Cert. will be issued (9/17, 24, & 10/1)

Notice is hereby given that stock certificates no. A0164, A12033, A14866, A16275, A17630, A2623, A3599, A5023, A8380, A9614 and AX0246 covering a total of 110,740 common shares issued by Central Azucarera de la Carlota in favor of Rosa Bengoa Madariaga were lost.
(PDI-Sept. 3, 10 & 17, 2001)

•NOTICE OF LOSS•
49 PNB SHARES OF STOCK LOST IN THE NAME OF JORGE M. CARLOS

NOTICE OF LOSS
Notice is hereby given on the loss of Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company Stock certificate number 100017429 issued on August 15, 1997 and owned by CONSOLACION Y. LIM of 1486 Fuentes Drive, Roxas City. If no contest will be received within a period of thirty (30) days, a new copy of stock certificate will be issued
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HUGO BAUTISTA FERNANDEZ

of Binmaley, Pangasinan and Cubao, Quezon City

Peacefully joined our Lord on September 16, 2001 at the age of 88.

His bereaved wife **Dolores** (†); children **Winnie, Aida, Fr. Roland, Dia, Beckie** (†), **Fr. Ruben, Randa, Chin, Budi, Bonnet & Anvi**; sons-in-law **Ernie, Rene, Mario, Bien, Roland, Noly, Nick & Martin**; daughters-in-law **Marie & Cheche**; grandchildren **Jeanna, Michelle, Eirene, Liza, Mykey, Renelle, Bullett, Dudu, Jay-R, Nathaniel, Anna, Jonathan, Sarah, Javy, Bea, Miggy, Andoy, Sasheen, Russell, Badette, Rentin, RD, Enzo, Meg, Livi** and **Paolo**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His mortal remains lie in state at Chapel A-5 of the La Funeraria Paz on Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, September 23, 2001, at the Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque City after the 8:00 AM Holy Mass at La Funeraria Paz.

COL. ABELARDO "Boy" LOZANO ABAD PAF (Ret.)

has peacefully joined our Creator on the 6th day of September 2001 at the age of 57 at USC Hospital, Los Angeles, California, USA.

His loving wife **MILA** and children **TONY JOE, LYLBEE** and **WILHANN CUA, BETTYLYN, JOENET** and **KARENA, BARBIELYN**; his brothers and sisters **BABEE, LITO** and **DULCE, INDAY** and **PERT ANDAYA, NONOY** and **LORIE, ALBERT** and **BHEL, ARNIE** and **WINNIE, ANDREW** and **PAM**; aunties, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and grandchildren request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Villamor Air Base Chapel, Pasay City, where he shall await your final goodbyes. Necrological service is on September 21, 2001 (Friday) at 8:00 p.m.

Interment will be on September 22, 2001 (Saturday) at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at VAB Chapel.

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*"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me." Psalm 23:4
"Surely goodness and loving kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever." Psalm 23:6*

ERNESTO GATCHALIAN REYES

**Ret. Chief Electrical Engineer of Quezon City
Bambang, Pasig City**
July 18, 1925 - September 13, 2001

His loving wife **Felisa Mendiola Reyes**; children **Raul & Pat Yabut, Raquel & Gerry Belandres, Ramon & Aida Bitong, Romeo** (†) and **Roberto** (†); grandchildren, great grandchildren and other relatives thank our Almighty Father for His grace and faithfulness to us all.

His remains lie in state at the Nacional Memorial Homes, Araneta Ave., Quezon City. Interment will be on Tuesday, September 18, 2001 after the 9:00 A.M. Mass at the Himlayang Filipino Chapel, Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

Our Dearly Beloved Mother

Rosario "Charing" Fuentes Peña

Peacefully joined her Creator on September 14, 2001 at the age of 80.

Her loving husband **Victoriano**; children **Digna & Eddie Perez, Jaime & Ofie Peña, Marissa & James Rhee, Elmer & Cynthia Peña, Elizabeth & Lito Gonzales, Victoriano, Jr. & Menchie Peña, Alicia & Rene Guevarra**, and **Susan & Alex Crisologo**; sister, grandchildren and great grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Royal Chapel of Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Parañaque City.

Cremation schedule at the Manila Memorial Park Crematorium will be announced later.

---

*Eternal
life
will
swallow up
that which
can die.
God made
us for this
very
reason and
He has
given us the
Spirit as a
guarantee
that we will
live again.*
2 Cor. 5:4-5

Our Dearly Beloved Mother

Lourdes Berberabe Francisco

*Joined her husband **Oscar** on September 15, 2001 at the age of 67.*

She is survived by her children **Marielou** and **Obet Rodriguez, Edwin** and **Gaye Urbano, Vilma** and **Tony Macalino**; grandchildren **Marc, Christine, Trina, Lance, Michelle, Michael** and **Martin**; brothers and sister, in-laws, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Basilica of the Immaculate Concepcion, Batangas City until Tuesday, September 18, 2001 and will be transferred to St. Augustine Parish Church, Baliwag, Bulacan at 9:00 A.M.

Schedule of the interment at Baliwag Catholic Cemetery is on September 19, 2001 after the 2:00 p.m. Holy Mass.

ATILANA ABRILLA VDA. DE PALACIO

of Lucban, Quezon

Peacefully joined our Lord on September 13, 2001 at the age of 97.

Her children **Adoracion, Violeta, Nonong** (†), **Melinda, Tato**; son-in-law **Wayne & Flor**; grandchildren **William, Michele, Robert, Chona & Tonet, Joy & Bobby, Coralline & Ricky, Bobong & Edgar, Jet, Elsa**; great grandchildren **Jillian, Jet-Jet & Isabela, Eya, Danielle**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel A-4 of the La Funeraria Paz on Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday, September 20, 2001 at the Himlayang Pilipino, Tandang Sora, Quezon City after the 2:00 p.m. Holy Mass at La Funeraria Paz.

PROF. CRISTY R. HERNANDEZ

of the University of the Philippines and the University of Batangas

Died in the grace of our Lord on September 13, 2001 at the age of 78.

His wife **Ofelia**; children **Chito** and **Tonet, Ana, Noni** and **Che**, and **Marlene**; grandchildren **Iciay** and **Javi**; relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina. Please call Tel. #920-0352 for the final schedule of the following:

- Transfer to Batangas City
- Next day return to the U.P. Parish for the funeral Mass, followed by cremation services at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina.

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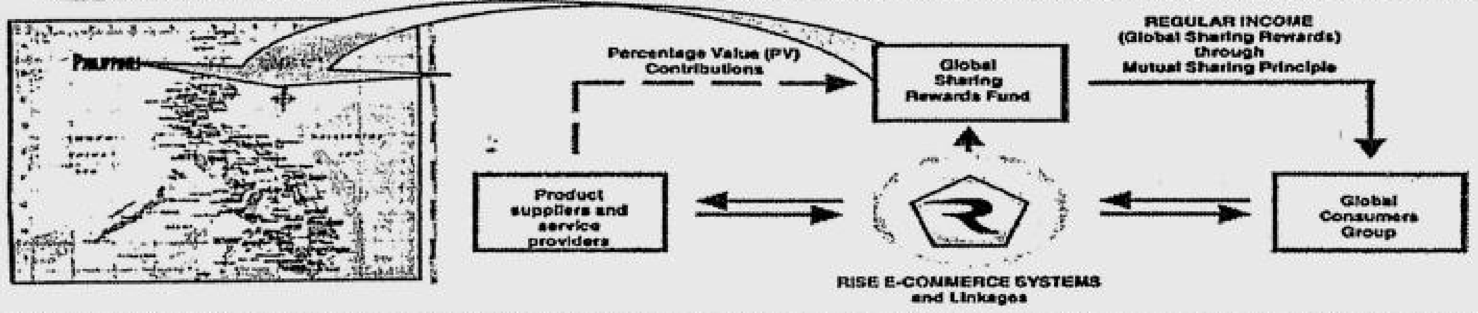
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Calle Real Bldg., J.M. Basa St., Iloilo City
Tel. # (02) 337-0930
CP # 0919-6080109

◆ ***RISE – Tagbilaran City, Bohol***
Tel. # (038) 235-3853
CP # 0917-8118079
Email: *rrrods@pacific.net.ph*

◆ ***RISE – KALIBO, AKLAN***
1503 G. Pastrana St., Kalibo Aklan
Tel. # (036) 262-3582
CP # 0917-6445180 / 0917-8441050

◆ ***RISE – NYALA BACOLOD***
Ms. Maria Suzita *"Zitie"* Diaz-Ea
NYALA RENT-A-CAR
C7 Goldenfields Commercial Complex, Singcang, Bacolod City
Tel. # (034) 433-1049 / 434-4589
CP # 0918-9403282
E-mail: *nyala@wbi.ph*

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Republic of the Philippines
DAVAO CITY WATER DISTRICT
Km. 5, J.P. Laurel Avenue, Davao City, Philippines
Tel. No. 221-9400 (connecting all departments)
Tel. Nos. 221-62-18 to 19 (Regional Training Center, Madapo Hill, Davao City)
Fax: (82) 2264885

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY/APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Notice is hereby given to all interested contractors under PCAB Category Medium A General Engineering and General Building for the proposed construction of the following projects, to wit:

1. R.C. Ground Reservoir - 1,500 cu.m. at Sitio Mahayahay Barangay Tugbok, this city.
   APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT - Php 5,011,287.48
2. R.C. Ground Reservoir - 680 cu.m., Cyclone Fence, Site Grading Development and Drainage System at Barangay Bangkas Heights, Toril District, this city.
   APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT - Php 2,557,822.14

(Above projects are under our Phase 3 Stage 1 Project)

Pre-C/Eligibility requirements are available at the DCWD BAC-B office starting October 1 to 5, 2001 during business hours.

Deadline of submission of Pre-C/Eligibility Forms	October 12, 2001
Issuance of Plans	October 19 - November 6, 2001
Pre-bid Conference	November 8, 2001, 3 p.m. DCWD Board Room
Opening of Bids	November 15, 2001, 3 p.m. DCWD Board Room

DCWD reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality/informality of the bids received and to accept only such bids which are advantageous to the District.

(Sgd.) **ENGR. EDWIN V. REGALADO**
DCWD BAC-B Chairman

(PDI--Sept. 14, 17 & 20, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
DAVAO CITY WATER DISTRICT
Km. 5 J.P. Laurel Ave., Davao City, Philippines
Tel. No. 221-9400 (connecting all departments)
Tel. Nos. 221-62-18 to 19 (Regional Training Center, Madapo Hill, Davao City)
Fax: (62) 2264885

(SECOND)
INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY/APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

All interested contractors with category PCAB, D and above, and IAC Special Classification or Well Drilling or Water Supply are invited to participate in the bidding for the **EXPLORATORY/WELL DRILLING OF THREE (3) PRODUCTION WELLS**, using Rotary Method, here in Davao City.

The Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of each well, and its location are as follows:

1) Alambre, Lubogan Well	Php 3,527,956.96
2) New Loon, Mintal Well	Php 3,046,942.78
3) Malagos Well (near DCWD Reservoir)	Php 3,553,244.42

PRE-C eligibility requirements are available at the DCWD BAC-B office starting **October 1 to 5, 2001** during business hours. Deadline for the submission of Pre-C documents will be on or before **October 12, 2001**. Issuance of plans will be from **October 19** to **November 6, 2001**. Pre-bid Conference is scheduled on **November 9, 2001**. Opening of bids will be on **November 16, 2001, 3 p.m.** at the DCWD Board Room.

DCWD reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality/informality of the bids received and to accept only such bids which are advantageous to the District.

(Sgd.) **ENGR. EDWIN V. REGALADO**
DCWD BAC-B Chairman

(PDI – Sept. 14, 17 & 20, 2001)

Philippine Economic Zone Authority
PEZA

Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY
Roxas Boulevard corner San Luis Street
Pasay City, Philippines

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that **FUJITSU COMPUTER PRODUCTS CORP. OF THE PHILS. (FCPCP)** with plant site at the First Philippine Industrial Park—Special Economic Zone (FPIP-SEZ) has filed with the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) an application for **PIONEER STATUS** to be granted to its production aluminum disk media based on newness of product and technology, which if approved, will entitle the company to six (6) years of Income Tax Holiday. Said application has been officially accepted and is under process in this office.

Any person with valid objections to or pertinent comments on the above-mentioned application may file with the PEZA his/her objections in writing and under oath, within fifteen (15) days from the date of this publication.

Please direct your position papers/comments to the Enterprise Regulations Department of PEZA [Tel. Nos. 510-2947; and telefax 551-3456].

LILIA B. DE LIMA
Director General

(PDI – Sept. 17, 2001)

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Warrants of Arrest were issued by the Branch XXXII, Metropolitan Trial Court, Quezon City against the following persons.

MS. TRINI ALDEGUER
MS. ROSE MARIE MILLARE

for violation of BP 22 (2 counts) under Criminal Cases Nos. 085873 and 085874. The last known address of the above persons was c/o Metro Manila Real Estate Magazine, Inc., Suite 902, State Financing, Ortigas Avenue, Mandaluyong City.

A reasonable reward will be given to the person who could furnish information leading to their immediate arrest. Please contact Mr. Leo L. Atienza or Atty. Melchor Ancanan of World Press, Inc. at Tel. No. 535-9901.

(PDI - Sept. 17, 2001)

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS OF THE CLOSED RURAL BANK OF ORION (Bataan), INC.

1. Starting September 18, 2001, the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) thru its duly authorized representatives shall receive claims for insured deposits maintained with the closed **Rural Bank of Orion (Bataan), Inc.**
2. Depositors are requested to proceed directly to the premises of the closed bank from September 18 to October 15, 2001, Mondays thru Fridays, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, where PDIC representatives are stationed to accept claims and entertain queries of depositors.

   After October 15, 2001, all depositors can file their claims personally or thru mail at the PDIC located at 2228 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City, Mondays thru Fridays, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
3. Depositors are advised to present the following requirements to our representatives when filing their claims:
   a. Original evidence of deposit such as Savings Passbook and or Certificate of Time Deposit; and
   b. Latest identification document (ID) bearing the depositor's signature

   Other documents may be required by our representatives in the course of their processing of claims filed.
4. Pursuant to the provisions of R.A. 3591 as amended by R.A. 7400, the prescriptive date (last day) for filing of claims for insured deposits in the closed Rural Bank of Orion (Bataan), Inc. is on December 10, 2002. After December 10, 2002, PDIC as insurer, shall no longer accept any claim for insured deposits maintained with the said closed bank.

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

(PDI – Sept. 15 & 17, 2001)

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sbma
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines

2004

Invitation for Bids

Date : **September 12, 2001**
World Bank Loan/Credit No. : **4111 PH**

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines through the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority ("SBMA") has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, towards the cost of the Second Subic Bay Freeport Project, and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for the Perimeter Security Fence and All-Weather Service Road Project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits published in January 1995, revised January and August 1996, September 1997 and January 1999.
2. The SBMA invites sealed bids from eligible bidders, for the 19-month duration of the contract (7 months construction period plus 12 months Defects Liability Period) for the Perimeter Security Fence and All-Weather Service Road Project, to undertake among others the repair and rehabilitation of existing fence and drainage structures; repair, rehabilitation and widening of existing asphalt road and construction of new Jadjad bridge, physical fence and new one-lane service road.

   The minimum **post qualification** requirements include:
   (a) The minimum required annual volume of construction work for the successful bidder in any of the last five years shall be PhP 400,000,000.00 or equivalent.
   (b) Experience as prime contractor in the construction of at least two works of a nature and complexity equivalent to the Works over the last 10 years.
   (c) The bidder must show evidence that he owns or has access to (through hire, lease, purchase agreement or other means) the following essential equipment to be made available for the contract: concrete batching plant, concrete transit mixer, asphalt plant, truck mounted concrete pump, motorized grader, vibratory roller, dump truck, wheel loader, truck mounted crane-hydraulic telescopic boom, asphalt distributor, asphalt paver and bulldozer.
   (d) Must have the necessary Financial Reports for each year for the last five (5) years including balance sheets, profit and loss statements and auditor's reports showing a sound financial position.
3. Bidding documents are available for collection from Monday, **17th September 2001:**

   Building 222, Dewey Avenue
   Subic Bay Freeport Zone

   upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 20,000.00 or US$400.00 at the:

   Treasury Department
   Building 229, Waterfront Road
   Subic Bay Freeport Zone

   An additional amount of US$ 50.00 will be charged to overseas contractors who wish to obtain their documents by courier. The SBMA will promptly dispatch the documents by courier but under no circumstances will SBMA be responsible for late deliveries or loss of the documents so mailed.

   Interested bidders may obtain further information at the office of the:

   Project Manager
   Building 222, Dewey Avenue
   SBFZ, Olongapo City
   Tel. No. (047) 252-45-43
   Fax No. (047) 252-45-44
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of 120 days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than PhP 4,800,000.00 currency, and shall be delivered to the address below on or before 2:00 PM of **October 31, 2001** after which time the bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.

   PPMD Conference Room
   Building 255, Barryman Road, SBFZ
5. A pre-bid conference will be held on **September 27, 2001** at 2:00 PM at the Conference Room of Bldg. 222, Dewey Avenue, Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

(Sgd.) **CHITO M. CRUZ**
Sr. D.A. for Support Services and PBAC Chairman

(PDI – Sept. 15, 16 & 17, 2001)

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Quezon City

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The **NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA)** invites authorized distributors/dealers to participate in the rebidding for the supply and delivery of the following laboratory and pest control equipment:

Lot 1 - 8 units Laboratory Testing Mill
8 units Laboratory Huller
Lot 3 - 28 units Power Sprayer

The schedule of bidding activities is as follows:

September 18-20, 2001	- Issuance of List of Pre-qualification Requirements
September 27, 2001	- Deadline of submission of Pre-qualification Documents
October 3-4, 2001	- Issuance of bid documents
October 5, 2001 (10:00 AM)	- Pre-bidding conference
October 12, 2001 (9:15-10:00 AM) (10:15 AM)	- Submission of bid proposals Opening of bid proposals

Those who were previously pre-qualified during the bidding held last August 31, 2001 are automatically qualified to participate in the rebidding. Pre-qualification forms and requirements can be secured from and submitted to PBAC Secretariat, ODAFA, 7th Floor, Matimyas Building, 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City. Bidding documents may likewise be secured from PBAC Secretariat and the same shall be issued to pre-qualified bidders upon payment of P2,000.00 non-refundable fee.

NFA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY/INFORMALITY OF THE BIDS RECEIVED AND TO ACCEPT ONLY SUCH BIDS WHICH ARE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY.

(Sgd.) **EDGAR S. ASUNCION**
Deputy Administrator and Chairman, PBAC

(PDI – Sept. 14 & 17, 2001)

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- 20.0GB hard disk drive
- 24X max. CD-ROM drive

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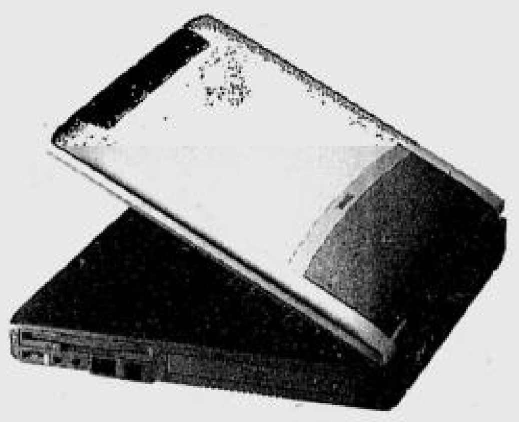

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- 8X max. DVD-ROM drive

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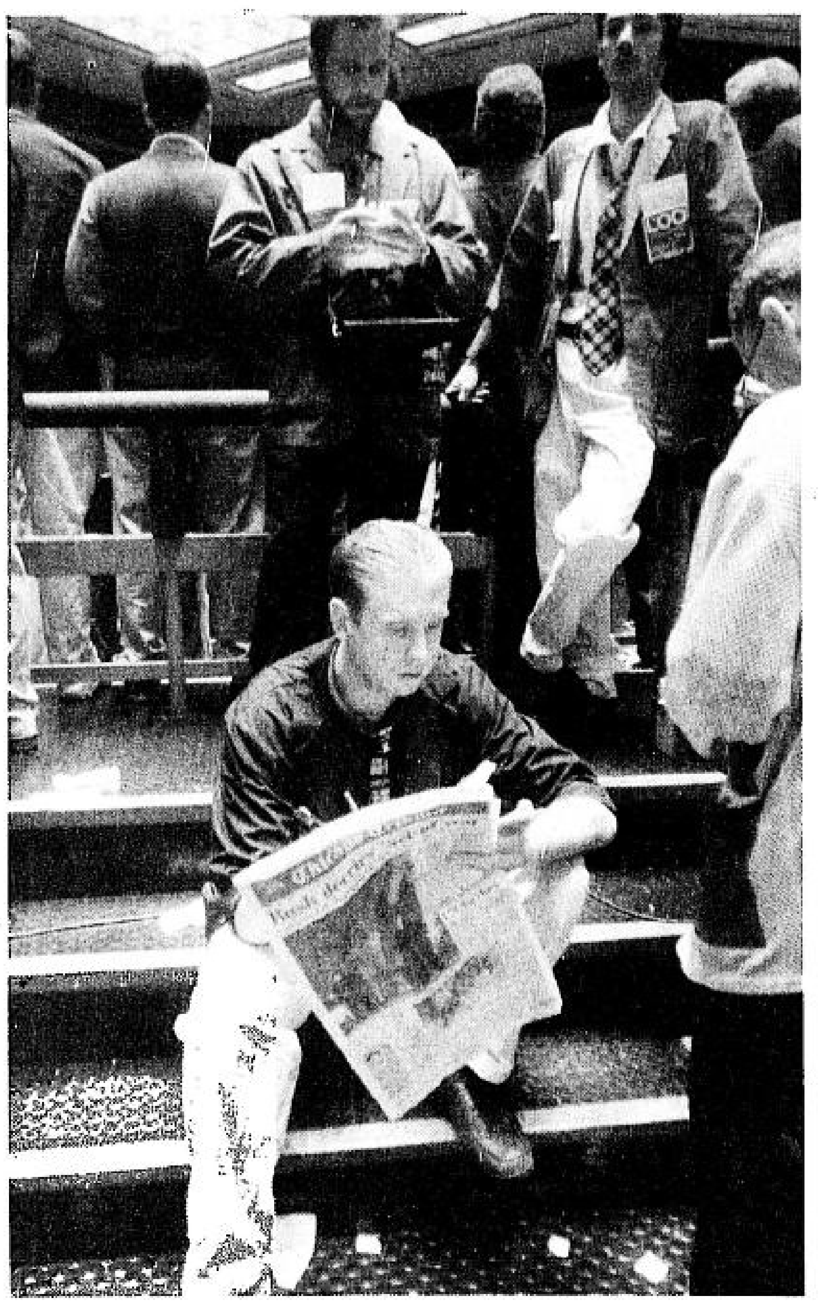


TRADER Drew Keefe gets caught up with the news as traders in the Treasury Bonds Pit go to work at the Chicago Board of Trade. AP

Southeast Asia steps up efforts to woo investors after US attacks

HANOI—Southeast Asian economy ministers Friday set out new measures to win back foreign investment as the unprecedented terror attacks on the United States dented hopes of an export-led recovery to the year-old global slowdown.

Ministers brought forward the deadline for completion of a common investment area among the 10 Southeast Asian states, from 2020 to 2010 for the six wealthier members and to 2015 for the other four.

They also agreed to commission a major study from a private-sector consultancy firm into the obstacles that have made foreign investors desert the area in droves in favor of emerging China.

Tuesday's terror attacks on America's financial heart, which sent world markets into a tailspin, gave a new urgency to the ministers' discussions, Singapore Trade and Industry Minister George Yeo said.

"We spent quite a lot of time talking about this challenge and evaluating the impact of the bombings of New York and Washington," he told a news conference.

"It was partly as a result of these reflections that we decided to accelerate the end date for the AIA (Association of Southeast Asian Nations Investment Area) from 2020 to 2010."

By the deadline, all the exemptions to the free flow of foreign investment currently permitted in Asean states must be ended.

Yeo rejected suggestions that Asean was not showing enough sense of urgency in setting a new target date that was still nearly a decade away.

"It may seem unimpressive to you shifting the end date back from 2020 to 2010," he said. But "this is not the only thing we are doing."

"Another project that we are looking at very seriously now is the engagement of an international consultant," he said.

The consultancy study would review the competitiveness of Southeast Asia as an investment destination for foreign firms compared with its principal rivals—China, Mexico and Eastern Europe.

"It will take a hard look at the restrictions and regulations we now have and see how we can better optimize our position and make ourselves more attractive to investors from other countries," said Yeo.

He acknowledged that the confidential information needed for the study would require a "political commitment" from Asean leaders, which could only be given when they meet for their next summit in Brunei in November.

But Asean Secretary General Rodolfo Severino insisted the grouping would not sit idly by until the meeting. *AFP*

Truce on financial markets cracks as European stocks, US dollar crumble

PARIS—A truce on financial markets to help central banks ward off recession showed cracks Friday when European stocks and the dollar slumped in an ill omen for today's resumption of trading on Wall Street after a four-day closure.

Global markets and central banks have sent signals of exceptional cooperation since the attacks in the US in order to ensure a smooth resumption of stock trading in the US today and to avert a recession.

There had been strong signs that central banks were responding to a request from the US Federal Reserve to contain trading in dollars.

But the dollar and stock prices began to tumble in afternoon trading and at 4CAST consultancy in London, economist Chris Furness said of the dollar trading: "This is without doubt a speculative movement that breaks the gentleman's agreement."

The emerging picture "doesn't augur well for Monday and if the central banks don't come in, the dollar will fall dramatically," he warned.

Major European indices showed steep losses. In London the FTSE stock index shed 3.8 percent at 4,755.7 points, while the Paris CAC 40 slumped by 4.97 percent to 3,909.49 points after rising by as much as 1.48 percent in the morning.

The Frankfurt DAX was off 5.25 percent at 4,161.66 points in late trading.

Earlier, many traders had insisted that they would continue to put prayers and common purpose before profit to support action by the central banks.

And in Washington, major US securities firms reportedly agreed to buy shares if necessary to prevent a freefall when markets reopen next week.

Federal securities regulators had indicated they would allow such tactics, which might be legally questionable in other circumstances, the Washington Post reported, quoting industry and government sources.

Even usually unscrupulous hedge funds have held back from toying with markets out of a mark of respect. Big investment banks and brokerages have helped one another instead of competing for business.

"We are all at each others' throats most of the time but people have looked at it and said this is dreadful and we cannot allow this to happen," said London-based stockbroker Justin Urquhart Stewart who runs the 7im investment company. *AFP*

Oil prices surge due to fears of US retaliation

LONDON—The price of oil shot up more than a dollar to close to $30 a barrel on Friday, as the market fretted about the prospect of US retaliation for the atrocities targeted on New York and Washington.

Brent North Sea crude for November delivery surged as high as $29.82 a barrel, up $1.45 from Thursday's close. It later settled back at $29.54 within an hour of an early closing of the London Petroleum Exchange at 5:45 p.m. (1645 GMT).

Prices have been pulled in both directions since the devastating attacks on US targets on Tuesday.

Some had feared that the terror strikes would tilt the world economy into recession, depress oil demand and hence sap crude prices.

But on Friday, the other tendency was holding sway: that US retaliation for the outrage would aggravate tensions between the United States and Gulf Arab producers.

"The market's very nervy," said David Nesbitt, a broker with the Prudential Bache house.

"The crude is also reacting to headlines like, 'Taliban chief spokesman warns of revenge if US attacks Afghanistan,' and that's just taken us through $29, he told AFP.

Though moderate Arab leaders have condemned the terrorist attacks and expressed sympathy with the United States, that sentiment may evaporate if US retaliatory measures aimed at chief suspect Osama bin Laden results in more loss of innocent lives.

Traders have not forgotten the price surges of 1973-74, 1990 and last autumn that followed standoffs between Western oil-importing countries and Arab crude producers.

The Afghan Taliban Islamic militia warned on Friday that it expected to be hit by a massive attack by the United States and vowed that it would take revenge. *AFP*

EU economic growth to slow to close to 2%

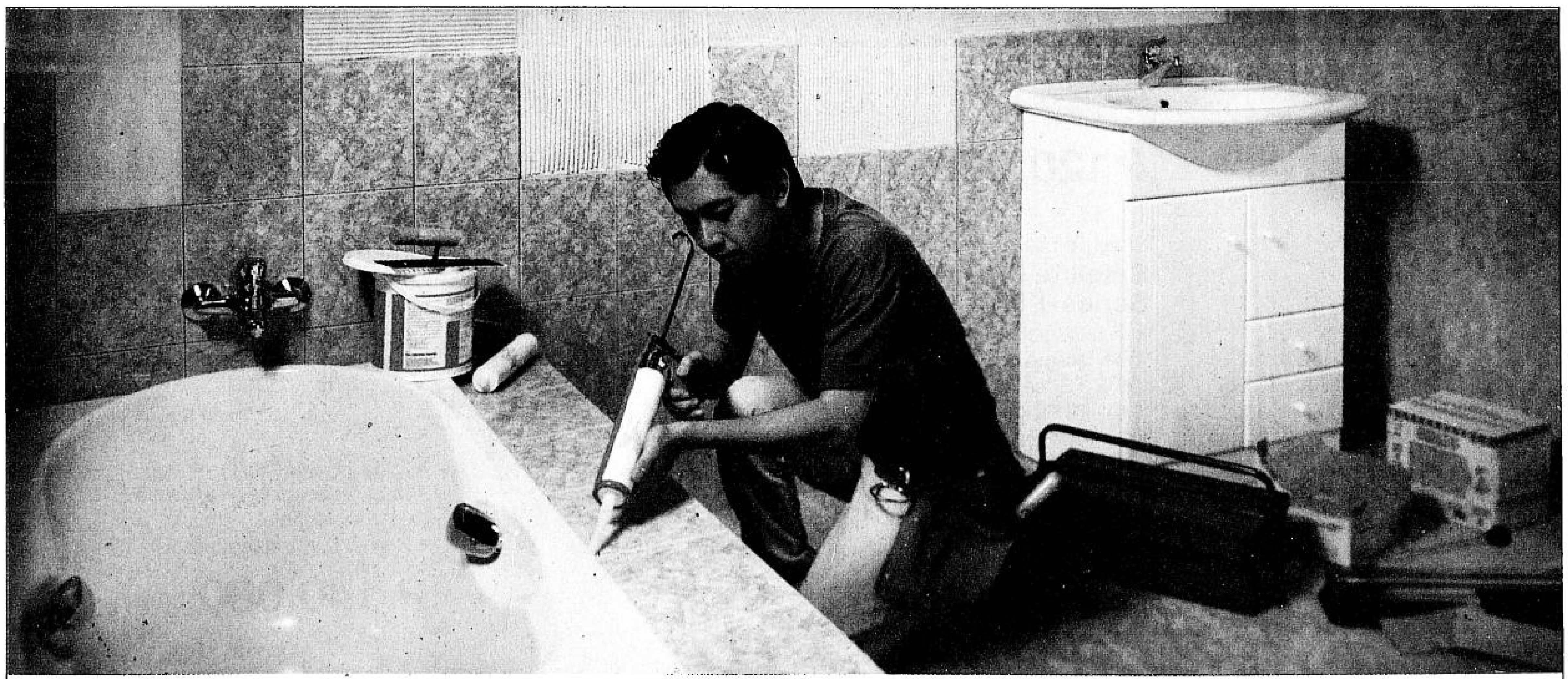
BUDAPEST—Growth in the European Union economy this year will slow to "close to" 2 percent as a result of this week's terrorist attacks in the US, EU Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs Pedro Solbes said Friday.

He did not offer a more specific figure.

Speaking at a press briefing with Hungarian Foreign Minister Janos Martonyi, Solbes said: "Following the attacks in the US, EU economic growth will be lower . : . close to 2 percent."

Solbes stressed the European economy was expected to grow more strongly next year.

"The tragic events in the US will probably have a bigger effect overseas than in Europe, and we expect higher growth in 2002," Solbes said. *AFP*



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Global shock waves from US attack ripple

WASHINGTON—Shock waves from Tuesday's devastating attacks were still rippling through the global economy on Friday with recession talk unabated as policymakers and bankers waited to see if Wall Street could rise from the ashes that cover the heart of the world's financial system.

Three days after hijacked planes flattened New York's World Trade Center, a key part of the city's financial nerve center, and damaged the Pentagon near Washington, some global economic officials conceded the inevitable—that the horrific events have dealt a body blow to global economic prospects.

"The events in the US have hit the world economy at the worst conceivable moment," Bank Austria chief economist Marianne Kager told a news conference in Vienna.

"We expect this to have an additional negative effect on the US economy in the second half, which means hopes of an early recovery are buried."

European Monetary Affairs Commissioner Pedro Solbes said the attacks cut the chances of a US third-quarter economic recovery and made him more pessimistic about European growth.

Initially, officials tried to put a brave face on the events, saying they believed the effects would be transitory.

US Federal Reserve Chair Alan Greenspan, able to soothe markets with a well-chosen phrase, has remained silent since Tuesday's strikes and has no public appearances planned until next Thursday.

But US Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill fought the rising chorus of gloom, insisting the American economy is not destined for recession.

"I didn't think we were heading into a recession on the 10th of September," the Treasury chief said in an interview on CBS television. Pressed about whether he thought the economy was now headed into a recession, he replied, "No, I don't."

"I have a high degree of confidence that America will go forward, our economy will go forward," he added.

European stocks, having held up on Thursday sparking hope that the financial meltdown—many had forecast right after Tuesday's events—might not materialize, tumbled 5 percent on Friday to levels not seen since December 1998.

Speculation rose of possible coordinated intervention to prop up the US dollar, down 4 percent against the yen and 2 percent against the euro since Tuesday on fears of an escalating conflict.

US Treasury bonds, often regarded as a safe haven in troubled times, rose for the second straight day on a growing conviction that the Fed would cut interest rates, but stock markets as far flung as Turkey and Brazil were battered.

What to do?

As shell-shocked financial markets struggle to grasp the enormity of recent events, central banks are uncertain how to respond apart from keeping financial markets afloat.

Central bankers have sought to soothe markets by offering words of restrained optimism and by pumping over $100 billion into markets to ensure their proper functioning. But Andrew Crockett, head of the Bank for International Settlements, conceded it was hard to know what actions are needed.

"It is not easy to say what policy initiatives are appropriate, but they will be considered on an ongoing basis," said Crockett, who also heads a body sponsored by the Group of Seven industrial countries charged with maintaining stability in financial centers.

Since Tuesday, trading in Asian and European markets has been subdued as investors try to assess what impact the attacks will have on the US economy. Indeed, it seems impossible to gauge the full impact of the terror attacks since Wall Street, the bellwether of global stock markets, has remained closed since Tuesday—the longest of such closure since World War I.

A day of mourning on Friday was marked at the New York Stock Exchange, usually a frenetic hive of activity, by its bell ringing at noon before an empty, silent trading floor.

Reuters

Global insurance industry can withstand attacks

NEW YORK—The global insurance industry can withstand the US terrorist disaster's financial impact, likely to be the biggest ever, rating agency Standard and Poor's said Friday.

"While we cannot yet endorse a specific estimate, companies so far have acknowledged around 4 billion dollars in losses, a figure which will likely go much higher," the New York-based agency said.

"Once insurable losses exceed $10 billion or $15 billion, we would expect to see a significant impact on balance sheets of individual insurers," it said in a statement.

"However, the totals would have to exceed $50 billion before we would begin to worry about the insurance system."

Assessments of the financial damage were speculative, said the New York-based agency's managing director for US insurance industry ratings, Steve Dreyer.

"But the insurance industry is strongly capitalized and can withstand an enormous financial hit without threat to the stability of the system overall."

For example, he said, Hurricane Andrew in August 1992 cost the industry approximately $20 billion in current terms and the 1993 World Trade Center bombing hit the insurance industry with under $1 billion in losses.

Insurance losses from the terrorist attacks were spread among many of the world's largest and strongest insurers, such as AAA-rated Chubb, which had reported a maximum exposure of $200 million for property claims, and AAA-rated Swiss Re, which had reported $1 billion in expected claims, the agency said.

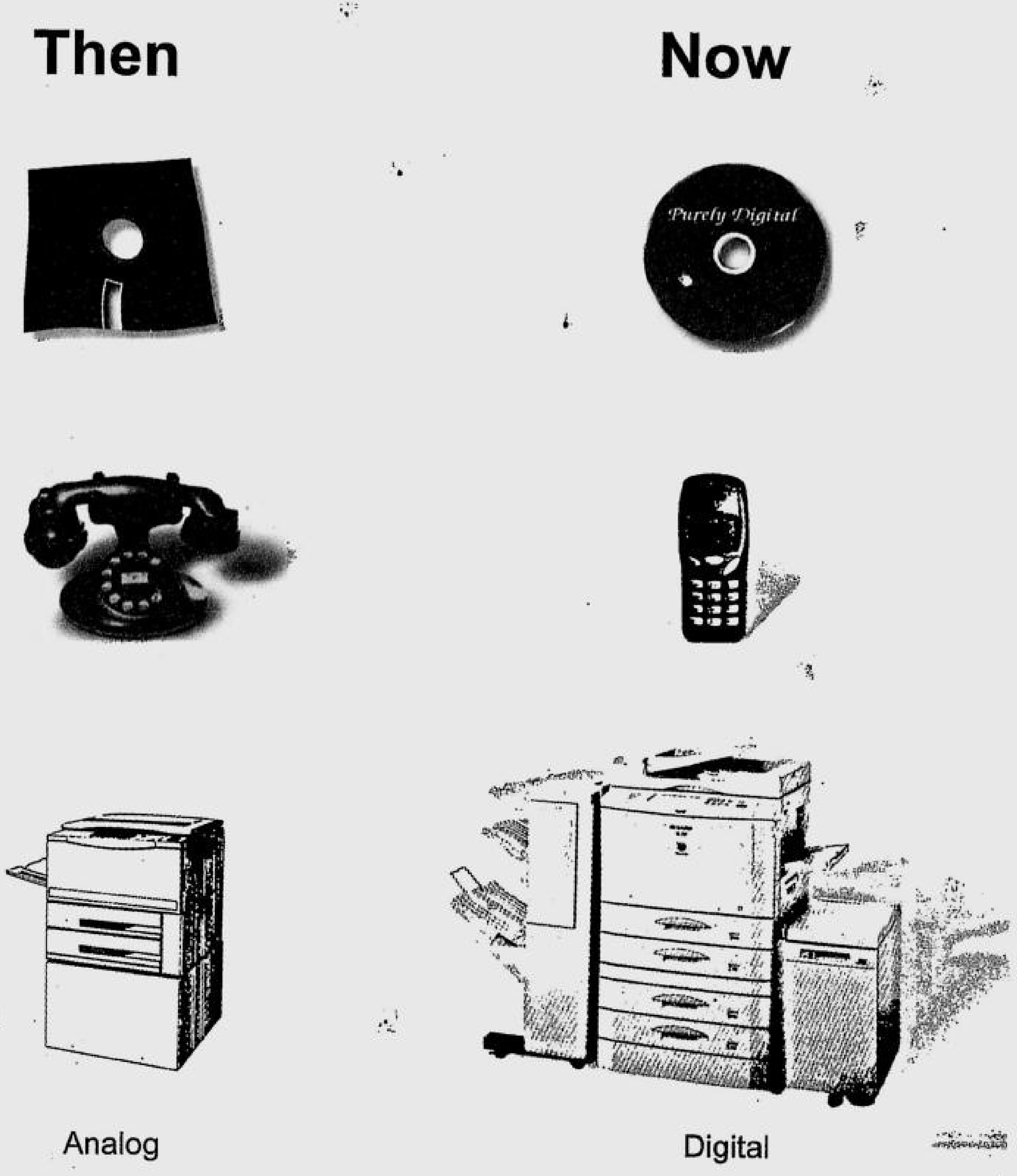
Insurance coverages likely to be most affected included life, disability, workers compensation, health, business interruption, property and general liability, it said.

Standard and Poor's said it would contact insurers in coming weeks and would assess the impact on individual insurers.

Life insurance losses were expected to be in the low, single-digit billions of dollars, which was not likely to cripple the industry, the credit appraiser said.

There could be some delays in payments on life insurance policies as the identification process was completed, it warned.

AFP



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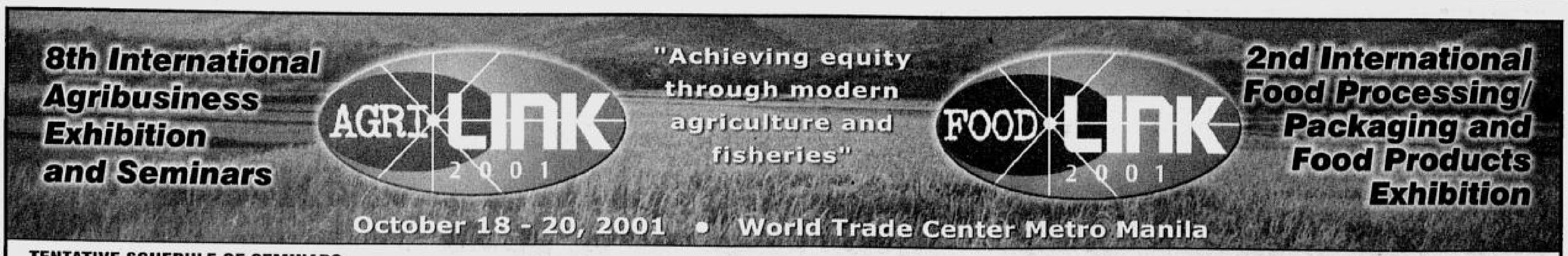
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DATE/TIME	MEETING ROOM 5	MEETING ROOM 6
October 18, 2001 3:00 - 5:00	Artificial Insemination in Practice *by: Jeida Farm Supply Corp.*	Current Status & Future of Swine Reproduction/Feed Ingredients for Swine Diets-Nutrition Values/Problems Associated with Ingredient Storage and Handling *by: University of Illinois/Illinois Department of Agriculture/USLGE Swine Trade Mission*
October 19, 2001 10:00 am - 12:00 nn	Making AI Profitable *by: Schipper Philippines / The Infarmco Group*	Dry Pea for Feed and Food Application *by: US Dry Pea and Lentil Coucil*
3:00 - 5:00 pm	Recent Advances and Development in Swine Nutrition *by: San Miguel Food, Inc.*	Feeding the Reproductinve Herd Under Tropical Conditions/Gilt Management: Factors Influencing Attainment of Puberty and Longevity *by: University of Illinois/Illinois Dept. of Agriculture/USLGE Swine Trade Mission*
October 20, 2001 10:00 am - 12:00 nn	Feed and Food Safety: Industry Perspective *by: Monsanto Philippines, Inc.*	Greater Market Access Through New Technologies: The Israel Experience *by: The Embassy of Israel-Manila*
3:00 - 5:00 pm	Free Range Chicken Growing Organic Fertilizers/Natural Pesticide Formulation *by: Organic Producers & Trade Association*	Value Adding Products of Tilapia *by: Technology & Livelihood Resource Center*

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Gov't, Tan nearing deal on PNB

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE GOVERNMENT and taipan Lucio Tan seem to be nearing a compromise deal on the so-called reverse privatization of Philippine National Bank.

Both parties, according to a well-placed government source, have agreed to soften their positions.

Tan was said to have agreed to reduce his asking price of P60 per share, which will be the basis for the conversion of part of PNB's debts to government equity.

The government, for its part, agreed to bring up its offer from the current level of P40 per share.

The source said both groups were still negotiating and the talks have been progressing well. "The gap between the government's offer and Tan's asking price has already substantially narrowed down. We are now talking about a few peso difference between the two parties' offers."

"They are now very close to forging a deal. But I still think the earliest that they can implement the debt-to-equity conversion will be early next year," said a government source.

PNB chair Norberto Nazareno said it was still premature to say anything about the deal. Tan told reporters last week that the government might announce something soon.

The compromise price, said another source, might be between P48 and P50 per share.

The price that Tan and the government would agree on will also become PNB's new par value, which at present stands at P60 each.

Of the P25 billion obligations of the bank, P15 billion is owed to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and P10 billion to Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.

The debt-to-equity conversion, also dubbed as the reverse privatization of PNB, will increase the government's stake in the country's sixth largest lender to less than 50 percent from 16 percent.

The emerging scenario, said the government source, was for the state and Tan to each keep a 40-percent stake in the bank and leave the remaining 20 percent in the hands of other shareholders and the public.

GOV'T/ B13

DTI moves to resume talks on NSC issues

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry will try to woo back Hottick Investment Ltd.-Renong Bhd. of Malaysia to the negotiating table with creditor-banks in line with a government plan to choose a mutually acceptable investor for the long-idle National Steel Corp.

In a statement, Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas II said the DTI would pursue its attempt to mediate in the talks and in forging a sound agreement that would lead to the reopening of NSC's Iligan facility, which has been closed since November 1999.

Roxas said he remained hopeful that Hottick-Renong would resume their participation in the Evaluation Committee for the proposed lease arrangement for NSC.

Last week, Hottick-Renong informed the DTI that it was withdrawing from the evaluation committee composed of creditor banks and government officials as it has opted to revive its lease agreement with Allengoal. This company was formed in 1999 as a sole proprietorship by its president Alexander Delmo, a Cagayan de Oro-based businessman engaged in steel processing.

The deal with Allengoal was one of the reasons why Hottick-Renong and the NSC creditor-banks were locked in a legal battle at the Securities and Exchange Commission. The dispute has kept the Iligan plant closed for nearly a year now and concerns over NSC's assets prompted the government to step in and break the impasse.

Roxas previously described as a major breakthrough Hottick-Renong's participation in the evaluation committee to find an investor that is mutually acceptable to both Malaysian investors and local creditor banks.

But Hottick-Renong's withdrawal caught the government off guard especially after Pengurusan Danaharta Nasional Bhd. (which took over Renong's assets) had already agreed to the joint sale of its 80-percent stake in NSC during the President's state visit to Malaysia last month.

Based on its original proposal, Allengoal wants to lease (for less than P20 million a month) the NSC facilities for at least two years and rehabilitate and operate the steel giant's produc-

DTI/ B13

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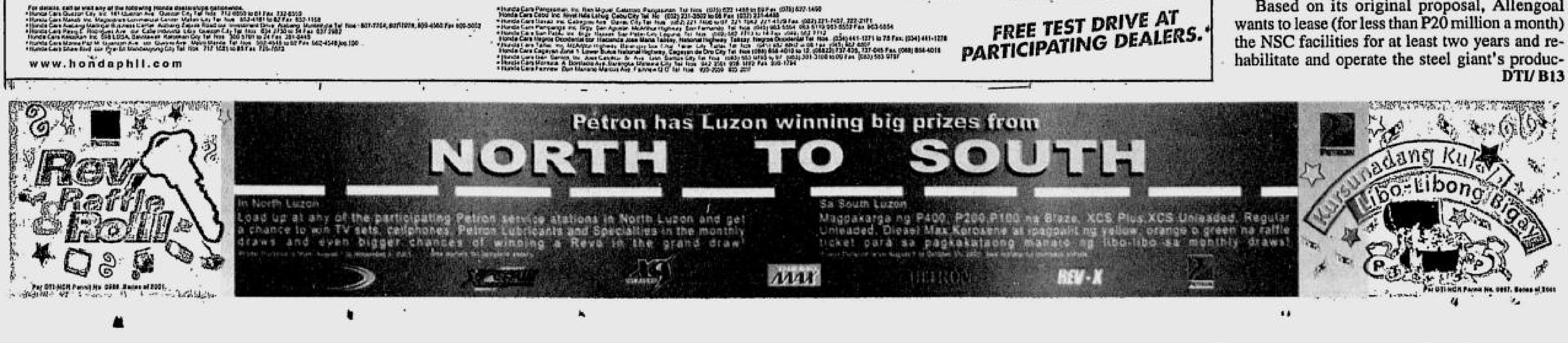

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BUSINESS Monday

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Juan de la Cruz feels the squeeze

By Clarissa S. Batino

TWO years ago, it was not clear to any Juan, Maria, and Pedro what animal or vegetable money laundering was.

While most Filipinos now know that the issue is linked to criminal activities in most countries, many still don't have the foggiest idea on how one of the biggest themes in global financial markets before the destruction of the World Trade Center, would affect us.

According to Alberto Reyes, deputy governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the issue on money laundering is an issue faced by anybody with foreign transactions.

And if a law against the laundering of dirty money would not be passed soon, crippling economic sanctions from rich and powerful countries may follow, he said.

"When this happens, everybody will be affected," Reyes explains.

The Bankers Association of the Philippines had estimated that delays in financial transactions of Philippine firms and individuals could reach $34 million daily, without a money laundering law.

HSBC treasurer John McGowan points out that the banks' intermediation costs, or simply the cost of doing business especially for local lenders, would go up because of the laundering-related queries.

It is up to the banks whether they would choose to absorb the cost or pass it on to their consumers, McGowan says. Another source adds that it is only a matter of time before banks start charging their customers for the delay.

"When foreign banks are not familiar with the transacting party or the receiving party abroad,

JUAN/ C2

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Juan de la Cruz feels the squeeze

(From page C1)

they will not clear checks readily. They will ask for more information and instead of processing the transaction within a day, now it would take three days or even a week to complete it," says the central bank deputy governor.

Without naming particular individuals or banks, Reyes cites several instances when a foreign correspondent bank did not agree to clear transactions because the name of the Filipino party was similar to a Columbian drug lord.

Most Filipino surnames were Hispanized during the Spanish colonial period but this was no excuse for the foreign banks that were answerable to their respective governments.

These nations, in turn, have to explain transactions to the anti-laundering watchdog put up by rich member-countries.

While sometimes petty and often prone to a sweeping generalization, foreign banks could not afford to be remiss when scrutinizing accounts from the Philippines and other countries that are considered "non-cooperative" in the fight of the powerful blocs against money laundering.

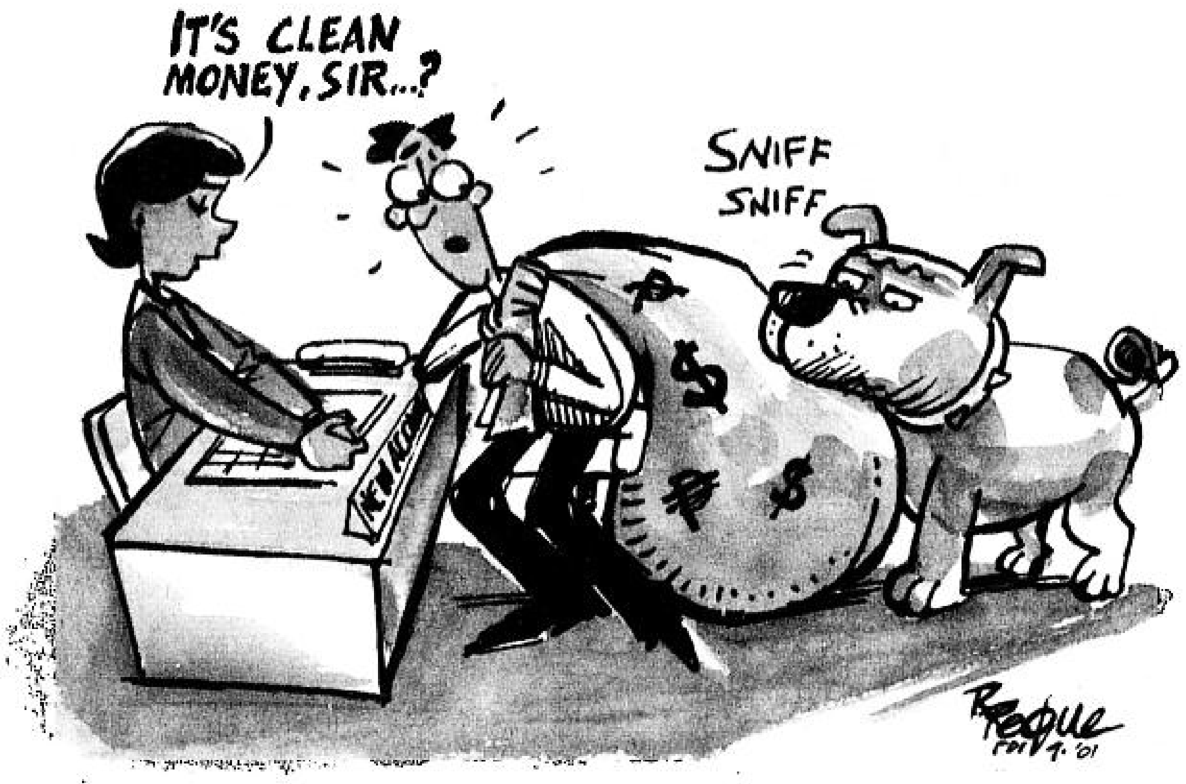
If they happen to miss out on what could turn out to be an account involved in money laundering, they have to face penalties provided under stringent anti-laundering laws.

The Paris-based Financial Action Task Force was formed by the powerful Group of Seven, whose economies control the world.

The task force had estimated that the amount of money laundered globally could reach as much as $1.5 trillion a year, comparable to France's annual gross domestic product.

Money-laundering is the "cleansing" of funds raised from illegal or "dirty" activities such as drug-trafficking, kidnapping, racketeering and fraud.

There was another instance, Reyes relates, when the address of the transacting party in the Philippines was the Iranian Embassy. The foreign bank promptly called Manila to ask for additional information on the account, suspecting that it may belong to a terrorist group.



Some of these transactions involve dollar checks or cash being wired to pay for hospitalization bills or tuition fees of affluent Filipino families who can afford to send their kids to study abroad or their family members for treatment.

Lawyer Juan de Zuniga, general counsel of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, laments that even hard-earned remittances of the overseas Filipino workers could be subjected to undue scrutiny because of the pressure being applied by rich countries including the United States and Europe.

De Zuniga assured that often, although not always, transactions of overseas Filipino workers need not invite the attention of the foreign financial watchdogs.

But there could be cases when these remittance are lumped as one transaction, thus the value exceeds the regular overseas workers' salary. This can raise the alarm bells of most banks.

"Generally though, OFW transactions should proceed smoothly. Even if at first it may encounter queries because it was lumped with the others, but subsequent transactions should not encounter anymore problems," De Zuniga says.

What could minimize the hassle, he says, is for any Filipino client to cooperate with the banks and try to be as transparent as possible when being asked about personal details and the purpose of the transaction.

Banks are required by the BSP to practice KYC, or know-your-customer.

The monetary authority believes that if banks would strongly pursue KYC, it would get a better handle on suspicious transactions and be able to report to the central bank immediately.

"To the extent that banks asks pertinent questions, there should be full disclosure from the clients' side," De Zuniga stresses.

Local banks, because of questions being raised by their foreign counterparts, are already starting to anticipate these queries.

De Zuniga says that on the personal level, most banks would not only want to know the address, contact number, age and occupation but also the income pattern of a particular client.

The income profile is important for banks to determine whether the transactions of a client are commensurate to his average earnings, the BSP lawyer explains.

On the transaction side, a client must disclose the purpose that must correlate with the amount being wired.

A seemingly disproportionate size to the earnings of a Filipino working as domestic helper overseas is sure to draw quick reactions from the foreign bank processing the remittance.

As BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura had stressed to the point of redundancy, the issue on money laundering should be everybody's concern.

As banks start feeling the pinch of the so-called penalties being imposed by foreign banks with the imprimatur of their respective nations, their clients who happen to be most people like you and me, may not be spared at all.

GE chief says in new book he was too cautious

STAMFORD, Connecticut—Despite overseeing massive layoffs and selling and buying billions of dollars worth of businesses, Jack Welch says in his new book he was too cautious—even timid—as General Electric Co.'s chief executive.

Welch, who releases "Jack: Straight From the Gut" on Tuesday, earned the unwanted nickname "Neutron Jack" after tens of thousands of job cutbacks in the 1980s. He sold cherished GE operations and boldly bought new ones, including RCA, which owned the NBC television network.

"Contrary to reputation, I've often been too cautious," Welch wrote. "I waited too long to get rid of managers who weren't willing or able to face reality. I was hesitant with some acquisitions, slow to embrace the Internet, even timid about blowing up all the rituals and traditions of what once had been a bureaucracy.

"Almost everything," Welch continued, "should and could have been done faster."

Still, Welch wrote, GE became a company that relished change, used its size to take risks and is now respected around the world.

Many experts agree, calling Welch one of the best business leaders of the 20th century.

During Welch's two decades as its leader, Fairfield, Connecticut-based GE expanded from a $13 billion maker of appliances and light bulbs into a $480 billion industrial and financial services conglomerate that provided strong profits even in difficult economic times.

Welch, who retired Friday, writes that his mother, Grace Welch, was the most influential person in his life. Welch grew up with a speech impediment, but his mother instilled self-confidence in him by telling him: "No one's tongue could keep up with a brain like yours."

"And many of my basic management beliefs—things like competing hard to win, facing reality, motivating people by alternately hugging and kicking them, setting stretch goals, and relentlessly following up on people to make sure things get done—can be traced to her as well," Welch wrote.

Welch started working for GE in 1960 in its plastics division and nearly quit when he initially received the company's standard $1,000 raise. The experience, he said, taught him the importance of "differentiation," a phrase he invokes often in the book.

Saying the concept builds the best leadership team, Welch forced managers to rank the top 20 percent of their managers, the 70 percent considered vital to the organization's success, and the bottom 10 percent.

The top performers got raises two to three times what the next group received to ensure they stayed on. The bottom tier got no raises and faced dismissal.

"That standard raise I got four decades ago has probably driven my behavior to an extreme," Welch wrote. "But differentiation is all about being extreme, rewarding the best and weeding out the ineffective."

Five years after Welch got the top GE job, one of every four people was gone from the GE payroll—for a total of 118,000 employees. GE became the first large profitable company to take such drastic action for competitive reasons in the face of recession, inflation and rising Japanese imports, Welch said.

Welch's son, John, felt the effects of one layoff when a classmate took a swing at him on the school bus after Welch fired the boy's father.

Welch defended the layoffs, saying those affected received significant notice and good severance pay. He said the moves reflected a change from guaranteeing jobs to a new "psychological contract" that made GE jobs the best for those willing to compete.

"I never underestimated the human cost of those layoffs or the hardship they might cause people and communities," Welch wrote. *AP*

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Rice importation in a liberalized environment

MAPPING THE FUTURE

Romeo G. David

AT THE opening of Congress last July 23, 2001, President Macapagal-Arroyo in her State of the Nation Address (Sona) articulated her government's position to allow the farmers to import rice. This means the lifting of government's monopoly in rice importation, which has been implemented by the National Food Authority (NFA) since the 1970s.

Why is the government engaged in trading when this is primarily a function of the private sector in a free enterprise economy like the Philippines?

The government participation in rice trading is undertaken in the pursuit of its governance (self-preservation) objective by managing and ensuring food security of the nation. It manages food security by balancing the supply and demand pressure of rice. When necessary it imports supply-demand gap through the NFA under government rice import monopoly.

Allow me to brief you on what food security means. It is a condition where supply of the staple food (rice) is assured, accessible and within the purchasing power of practically all sectors of society at all times. In this definition, there are four elements of food security management namely:

1. Availability—adequacy of supply within the country; domestic production plus imports
2. Accessibility—positioning and distribution aspects
3. Affordability—income, purchasing power and welfare aspects
4. Relief operation—a stable food supply even during and immediately after periods of emergencies/calamities, whether man-made or natural.

Food security management is the collective responsibility of many government agencies and groups. The basic role is to ensure that available supply is adequate to meet the demand for the staple food (rice) at all times. Supply comes from domestic production and/or importation, and donation or grant, if any. Only when the elements of availability are assured that the other elements can be given attention.

Balancing supply and demand is key to food security. Any gap between domestic supply and demand has to be addressed through its import management, currently through non-tariff barriers.

Under the present system, the government manages incoming supply from abroad (imports) through its import monopoly and by setting import quota (under quantitative restriction system or QR).

The QR is the best known of the non-tariff barriers (NTB). It places a limit on the total quantity of imports allowed into a country every year. There are other NTBs like product standards, domestic content requirement, state monopoly of foreign trade, etc.

The government (under PD No. 4) carries out its role in food security, among others, through NFA's monopoly of rice importation. But there are domestic pressures to contend with: shortage of cash to finance huge volume of importation, perceived ineffectiveness and inefficiencies, alleged patronage of foreign farmers and perception of graft and corruption.

In addition, there are external pressures toward liberalization such as globalization of economies and Philippine commitment to GATT-Uruguay Round 1994 and with WTO in 1995.

Until such time that the Philippines is self-sufficient in rice from domestic production, rice importation is inevitable; the government cannot let go of its management of the food security of the nation.

At this point, I stress that the Sona of President Macapagal-Arroyo does not remove the imposition of quantitative restriction in the importation of rice. Under the Philippine's commitments with WTO, rice importation shall be subject to tariffs stating 2005.

Rice trade under the transition period: 2001 to 2004

QR on rice importation will remain until 2004. But under the WTO commitment of the country, certain quantities are given free access which are referred to as minimum access volumes (MAV). In short, MAVs are not subject to QR.

Presently, the government will continue to determine rice import quantities and allocate import quotas. The lifting of government monopoly in rice importation addresses the following domestic concerns:

Huge foreign exchange exposure of the government in rice importation that places heavy burden on government coffers.

With greater participation in rice importation of farmers in the near term and other private sector groups in the future, this will allow government to relieve itself from huge financial exposure. Done efficiently the rice importation by the farmers will compensate whatever negative effects that rice importation may bring them.

It will also provide for greater transparency in government transactions thereby improving its image. Contract prices of government can already be compared with those of the farmers and other private importers.

Rice trade under a system of tariffs

In 1995, the Philippines committed itself with the WTO to slap tariffs on rice importation starting year 2005. Imposing tariffs has the following benefits or advantages:

- It conforms with Philippine international commitments.
- It is less prone to graft because it is more transparent and predictable system.
- It addresses the tight financial situation of the government.

The fast development in the fields of information technology, communication and transportation neutralizes the risk that imposing tariffs may pose to the government in its management of food security.

It liberalizes trade toward greater private sector participation in rice trade and promoted investment in infrastructures and services that facilitate trade.

As compared to QR, there is no fixing of import volume or volumes under a tariff system. But tariff rates can be set equivalent to desired QR volumes.

Summary

The Sona of the President lifted government's monopoly of rice importation and allows the farmers to import rice in the near term and probably, other private groups in the future.

The Sona does not lift the QR, however, because under the government's commitment to the GATT Uruguay Round in 1994 and WTO in 1995, rice importation under QR will stay up to the end of 2004.

Allowing the farmers and perhaps other private groups to import rice up to 2004 is in effect preparing both government and the concerned and still maintain government responsibility in food security management.

Thus, abrupt shift is avoided and the risk of possible irreversible damage is diminished.

Ensuring food security is a basic self-preservation strategy of government in furtherance of its governance objective and its participation in trade is only incidental to its food security objective.

Government's lifting of its monopoly in rice importation addresses several domestic concerns namely huge budgetary exposure of government for rice imports, alleged patronage of foreign rice farmers perceived ineffective and inefficiencies and perceived graft and corruption in rice importation.

Conclusion

With the globalization of economies and increasing domestic and external pressure, the government will have to consider its options.

It is inevitable for the government to change its food security management strategy, liberalize the import trade of rice, shift from QR to graduated tariffs and re-engineer the NFA from trading and regulatory agency into a service-oriented entity or corporation.

Recommendations

The government should liberalize rice trade, proceed in its shift from QR to tariff system, and adopt graduated tariff system with three levels as follows:

Program A—this level of tariff is calculated to encourage the entry of the volume equivalent to the estimated gap between domestic supply and demand.

Program B—this second level of tariff is higher than Program A but would still provide certain margin of profit to traders.

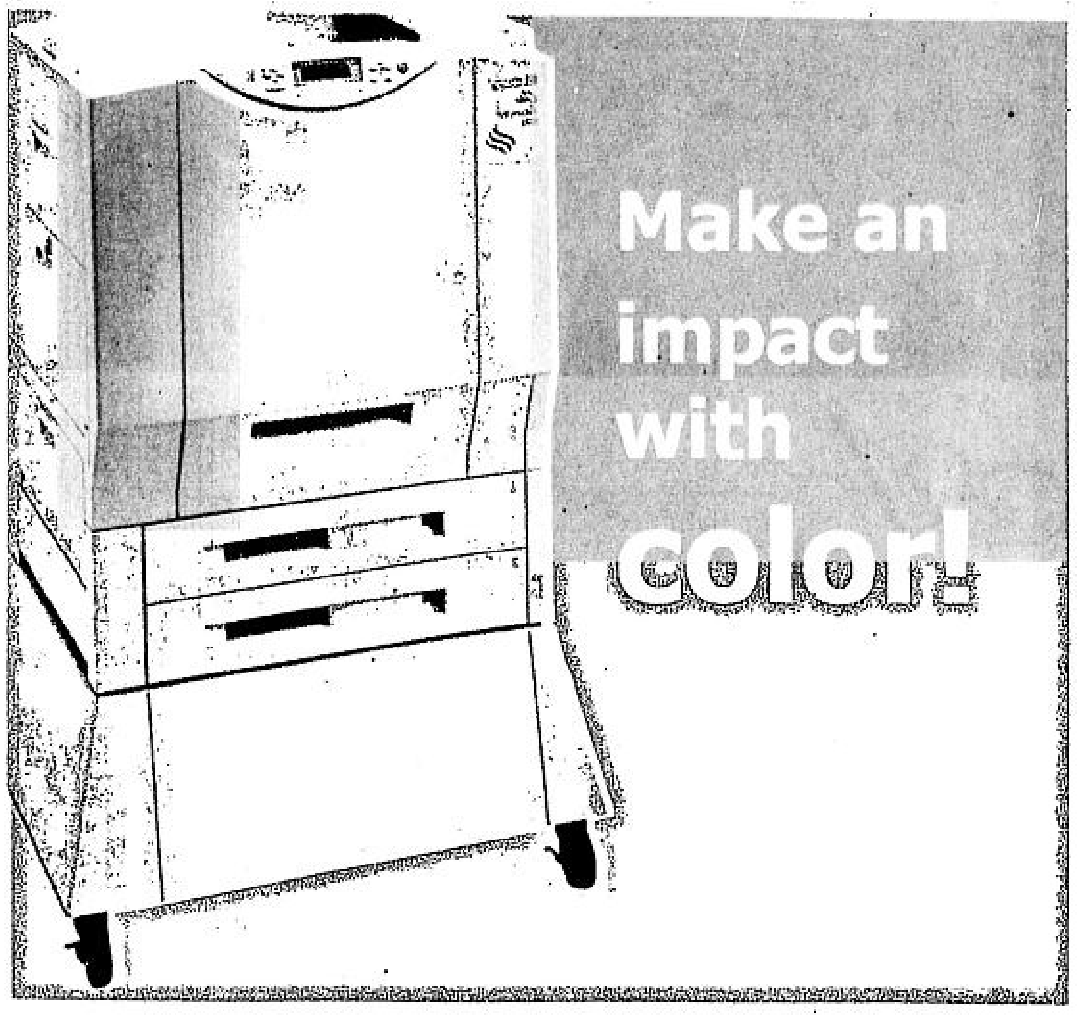
Program C—this third level of tariff is calculated to provide very minimal profit if not altogether discourage further importation.

The creation of a food security council to be attached to the National Security Council. This shall safeguard the government interest in food security management goals.

The re-engineering of the food security agency (now the NFA) from a trading and regulatory-oriented agency into service oriented entity or corporation.

An appropriate legislation has to be enacted to effect the changes recommended.

(This article reflects the personal views of the author who is a member of the Management Association of the Philippines. Mr. David is former administrator of the National Food Authority and currently chair and president of BNL Management Corp. The MAP secretariat and the author may be reached at mapsec@ globe.com.ph)



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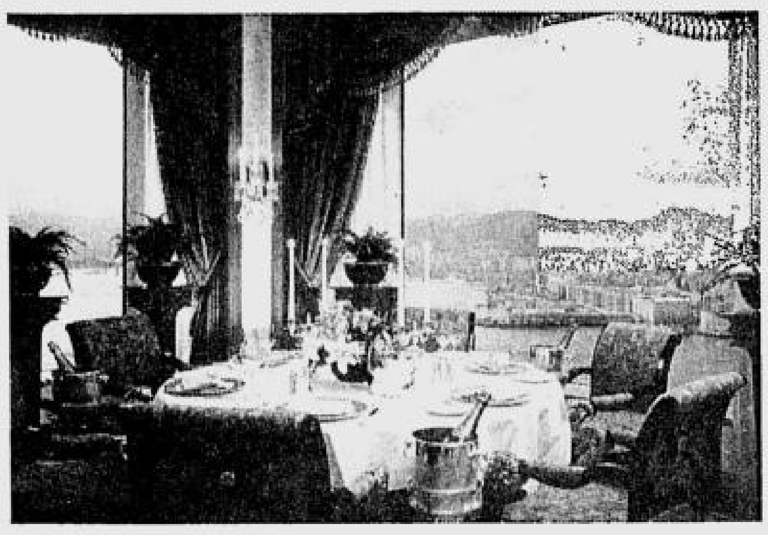

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A Citibank Visa Platinum cardholder instantly belongs to the Visa Platinum Club which accords the cardholder exclusive privileges from renowned hotels, resorts, shopping centers and first-class services around the world.

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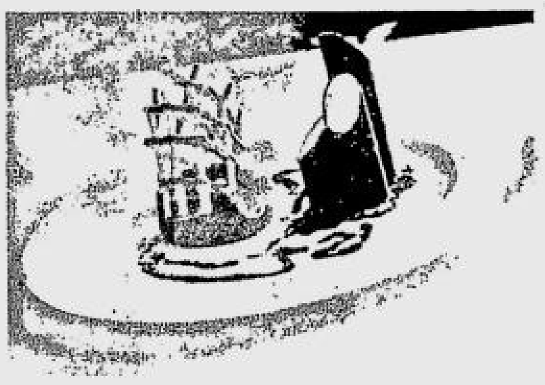
A Bulgari is within easy reach with the Citibank Visa Platinum. The happy dealer would even throw in a free item with the purchase. Discounts are at hand at top retail establishments such as Davidoff, Saga Department Stores, and Waterford Wedgwood.

Moreover, the Citibank Visa Platinum card comes with a concierge and customer service—personalized and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All the information and assistance a cardholder may need anywhere in the world is just a phone call away through CitiPhone Priority Hotline, toll free.

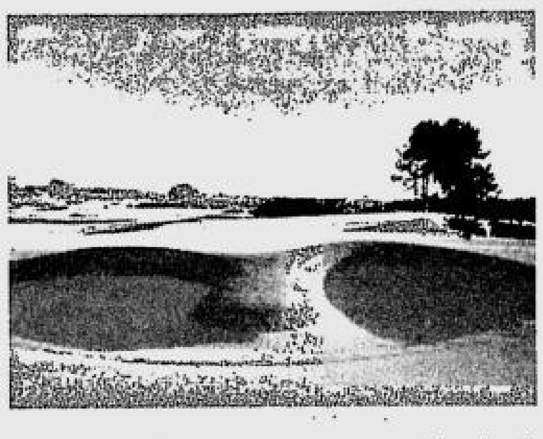


A privileged life with Platinum

The Citibank Visa Platinum concierge service will take care of almost everything to make your day—and night—proceed as smoothly as possible. It will seek out the best opera shows and concerts. It will arrange travels and accommodations. It will reserve restaurant seats. It'll buy flowers and send it to a friend at your bidding. All the hassles of life are ironed out by the concierge service of the Citibank Visa Platinum credit card.

The Citibank Visa Platinum credit card's Bon Appetit Club can secure priority reservations from any of the 280 fine dining restaurants in the Asia Pacific region. Every time members use Citibank Visa Platinum to pay for their meal, they get a free bottle of wine and free parking at any of the restaurants listed.

For members who prefer to improve their game at the greens, reputable golf instructors from the exclusive Personal Trainer Service at the Nicklaus/Flick Game Improvement School will even reply to members' e-mail inquiries on golf improvement skills.



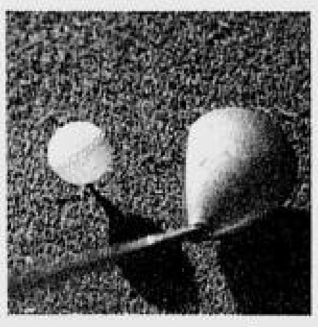
Frequent traveler-members can also have free access to all Northwest WorldClubs. Wait comfortably for your next flight in the exclusive lounge. Avail yourselves, too, of the Fly Free Program, Citibank Visa Platinum's partnership with Philippine Airlines. With this program, members get complimentary tickets whenever they fly business or first class to designated cities using their Citibank Visa Platinum cards.

Do you wish to be driven in style in the most cosmopolitan cities of the world? The Hertz Rent-A-Car offers Citibank Visa Platinum members the best rates and even a free enrollment to the Hertz # 1 Club Gold.

In unfortunate situations during air, sea or land travel, members and their immediate families are covered up to P20 million in case of loss of life due to accident. In an emergency here or abroad, the medical expenses incurred by the member are also covered for up to P1 million, or another P2 million for 24-hour personal accidents. Plus, the member is protected from missed flights and lost luggage in the form of reimbursements.

Platinum: at home here and abroad

As powerful the Citibank Visa Platinum credit card is all around the world, it is reliable and sensitive enough to tackle your financial and lifestyle needs at home. The Citibank Visa Platinum credit card can offer discounts of up to 50 percent in more than 70 bookstores, retail stores, optical shops, audio-video outlets, furniture shops, signature clothing lines, and the like. The best restaurants in Metro Manila readily accept the Citibank Visa Platinum credit card, and even add in discounts in the menu prices. Hotels, likewise, offer special treats and amenities to Citibank Visa Platinum members.



And believe it or not, the Citibank Visa Platinum card will get you out of a tight fix at home. When the faucet leaks or the fuse blows out, or when the door jams and you've locked yourself out, let Citibank Visa Platinum take care of it. Just call the International SOS 24-hour Alarm Center and they will provide the cardholder with professional assistance. All related fees will be automatically charged to the credit card for later payment.

The Citibank Visa Platinum card is loaded with security and protection features to keep members sleep tight at night. If a member loses his or her card, a quick call to the CitiPhone Platinum Priority Hotline relieves the member of financial liabilities from fraudulent use of the card. Immediately, a new card will be processed. For added prestige and security, a member's photo can be affixed on the card. An exclusive CreditGuard even pays the minimum monthly due in case a member falls ill or meets an accident.

Citibank Visa Platinum card purchases that get lost or damaged are also protected. Citibank Visa Platinum can reimburse up to P75,000 per lost or damaged item, or P250,000 per event within 30 days of the purchase of the item or service.

And of course, Citibank Visa Platinum comes with its Rewards and the PayLite Installment Plan. Rewards allows the member to accumulate points from every credit card purchase and the points can be exchanged for gifts. PayLite allows items purchased with the Citibank Visa Platinum credit card to be paid in an installment scheme of 3, 6, 9, 12 or 24 months.

With the Citibank Visa Platinum credit card, it isn't lonely at the top anymore. With all the best of the world—and of life—at your hands, you're pretty much in great company.

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Introduced currently in the country, the Citibank Visa Platinum is a premium payment product that gives cardholders a range of exclusive privileges designed to suit their lifestyle and business needs, starting with as much as Php 5 million credit limit.

"The exceptional purchasing power and privileges of the Citibank Visa Platinum card give our cardholders the financial reliability and convenience to support their lifestyle needs," says James Murray, Visa International EVP for the Asia Pacific region and Greater China.

"As the global leader in the payments industry, Visa is firmly committed to setting new standards for our cardholders. In the Philippines, they demand the very best in payment convenience and spending power, and through the unparalleled service of the Visa Platinum card, we are giving it to them," he adds.

Citibank continues to lead in the local credit card industry with more than 700,000 cardholders. Lately the financial institution deems it has to focus more on the different needs of the various credit card markets. For one, the upper segment market has to be provided with services to cater to their specialized requirements and needs.

"At Citibank, we pride ourselves as innovators, always being one step ahead," says Nina Aguas, country business manager for global consumer banking. "We are in the service business, and it is our business to anticipate the needs of the consumer, and design products that will meet their evolving business and lifestyle needs."

Aguas says the Citibank Visa Platinum caters to a very select group of people who have "climbed the ladder of success." "They have the purchasing power, are constantly traveling and lead a lifestyle that deserve the most premium of credit cards."

With Citibank Visa Platinum, Citibank has established a new benchmark for the credit card industry. Credit card has been "redefined" according to Aguas with "unmatched perks and privileges that promise a totally new level of spending."

"It is truly the most exclusive of credit cards," says Aguas.

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TAIPAN Lucio Tan greeted everyone like Gabriel Singson but shied away from media

FROM left: Jaz Buñag, Leo Ferreria, Chan Say Lim, Takeshi Fukuda, Xiaoqin Zou Fukuda, Simeona de Guzman and Min Aldaba

LUCIO Tan and George Ty. Put the worth of these two gentlemen together and you spell 10-digit figures.

CHERRY Tan Ty with Antonio Abacan

METROBANK president Antonio S. Abacan

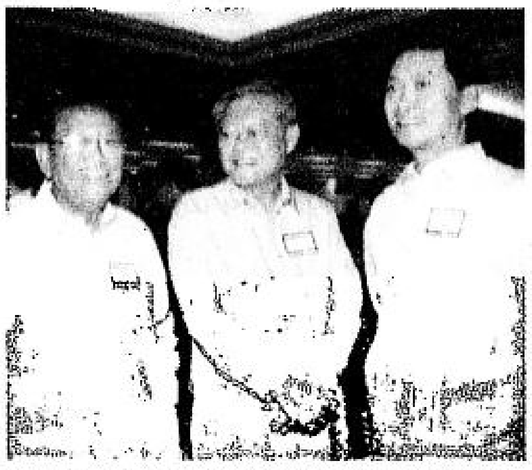
Educators mix with taipans and politicians

WITHOUT fail, taipan George Siao Kian Ty, celebrates the anniversary of Metrobank. Every year, politicans and businessmen would grace the occasion. This year was no exception as the bank turned 39 years old and, as has been the tradition for years, they honored outstanding teachers.

Representatives from the US Embassy, Congress, the Senate and of course the business community were present this year.

Philippine Long Distance and Telephone Co. president Manuel V. Pangilinan attended the awarding ceremony but immediately took his leave. Taipan Lucio Tan, whose daughter, Cherry is the wife of Ty's son Alfred, arrived although he was slightly late. Sen. Rene Cayetano stayed awhile. The special guest during the awarding ceremony was Vice President Teofisto Guingona.

SEN. Rene Cayetano with Placido Mapa Jr., Metrobank vice chair



REP. Herminio Teves, Julio Sy of Busco Sugar Co. and Michael Escaler of All Asian Countertrade

FROM left: Former BSP Governor Gabriel C. Singson, Lucio Tan and Metrobank director James Go

ATENEO professor Dr. Ricardo Abad

TOYOTA'S Alfred Ty, National Labor Relations Commissioner Alberto R. Quimpo and Global Bank's Henry Sun

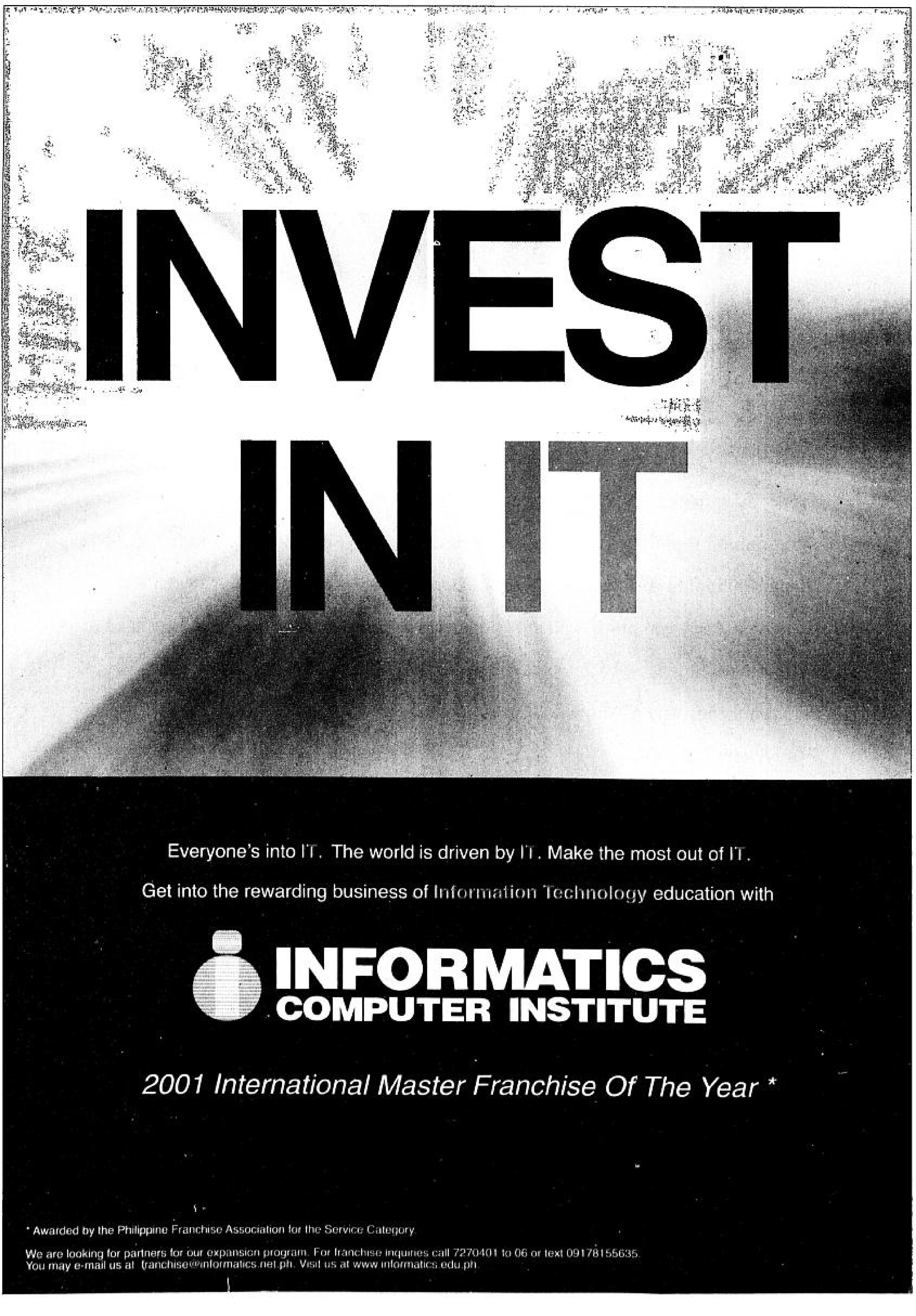
GABRIEL Singson with Mary Vy Ty

JUAN dela Torre, Betty So, Alfredo Bolisay, Yolanda Cruz, Pantaleon Francisco and Victoriano Arejola

ARTHUR Ty of PSBank with Christopher Chua

JAMES Go and Lucio Tan

NATIONAL Treasurer Sergio Edeza Jr.



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MOVEMENTS

Punongbayan & Araullo appointments

BENJAMIN Punongbayan, managing partner of Punongbayan & Araullo, which represents the worldwide professional services firm Ernst & Young in the Philippines, announced recently the appointment of Gregorio Navarro as head of the public accounting firm's assurance and advisory business services division.

Navarro joined P&A Ernst & Young, the Philippines' third largest CPA firm, in 1989 and was admitted to the partnership in 1990. He has 26 years of professional experience in public accounting work and as a top executive of one of the country's largest construction and engineering firms.

A University of the East accounting graduate, Navarro obtained the second highest overall rating in the October 1976 CPA examinations and is a recipient of the Young Achiever Award from the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

He also attended the executive program of the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management of Northwestern University in the United States.

Wordcomm names chair, president

WORDCOMM International PR Consultants recently announced the election of Archie Inlong and Ed Javier as chair and president, respectively.

Inlong, a 24-year public relations veteran, was formerly vice president for corporate affairs of Eastern Telecommunications Philippines and once served as DOTC spokesman and presidential assistant to former President Corazon Aquino.

Javier is a leading media relations consultant and former public affairs director of one of the biggest corporations in the Philippines. Today, he is acknowledged as one of the youngest leaders in the Philippine PR industry.

The formal election of Inlong and Javier is in line with WordComm's major expansion this year into advertising and online public relations.

JAVIER

New Dentsu office

DENTSU Inc., one of the largest single advertising agency brands in the world, announces the opening of its Manila office, called Dentsu Philippines.

Dentsu Philippines will be managed by its president, Nonna P. Nañagas. Nañagas is not new to Dentsu as she is moving on to this position from her former role as president of Image Dimensions, an associate agency of Dentsu Inc. global network.

The establishment of Dentsu Philippines is part of the agency's expansion program in the Asian region to serve its global clients' growing needs.

PBSP executive director

SALAZAR

THE PHILIPPINE Business for Social Progress, one of the country's oldest and largest corporate-led social development foundations, has recently appointed Gil Salazar as executive director.

Salazar will oversee PBSP's day-to-day operations which involve a nationwide staff of 175 development practioners, implementing a wide variety of programs averaging more than P175 million annually.

A licensed CPA and a consistent scholar with a Bachelors degree in Commerce majoring in accounting and management from the St. Louis University in Baguio City, Salazar is also a Dean's Lister with a Master in Business Administration from the Ateneo de Manila University.

Rising from the ranks, Salazar joined PBSP in 1978 as a program officer for cooperatives and micro-enterprise development, worked briefly as audit manager of the Cooperatives Foundation of the Philippines, then rejoined PBSP in 1982 as finance and administration manager, later becoming director for special programs, then associate director in 1995 until his appointment as executive director.

Philcom has new CEO

VICENTE J. Jayme has recently been appointed as president and chief executive officer of PhilCom Corp., the second largest international gateway facility operator in the Philippines.

Jayme has previously served as Philcom's chief financial officer prior to his appointment as CEO and as chief operating officer of Datelco Global Communications Inc. and Metro Kidapawan Telephone Corp.

He was part of Belle Corp. during its initial dynamic years. He also held key positions in companies such as Highlands Securities Philippines Inc., Tagaytay Highlands Corp. and the Philippine Stock Exchange.

Jayme earned a master's degree in Business Management at the Asian Institute of Management after finishing AB Economics from the Ateneo de Manila University.

Financial planners caution against rash market moves

NEW YORK—In an unsettled financial marketplace after Tuesday's air attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, financial advisors have one word of advise for those looking to flee the volatility of stocks. Don't.

"We had a client call my business partner and ask if he should sell and go to cash," said Patricia Raskob, a certified financial planner and president of Raskob Kambourian Financial Advisors in Tucson, Arizona.

The response: "Unless you want to participate in a panic, no."

Experts are urging clients with long-term goals or big stock holdings to resist the temptation to sell now, even if investors who lack well-steeled stomachs do just that.

"It's not wise for most investors to make market calls based on short-term events," said Carl Goodin, a certified financial planner for Financial Planning Associates in Chesterfield, Missouri.

Regaining bearings

It may be looking tempting to try.

Many experts expect US stocks, already in an 18-month "bear market," to come under heavy selling pressure in the coming days, following the lead of many foreign markets.

Relatively "safe haven" investments such as US Treasuries, in contrast, may thrive, they said.

These same experts say it won't be until next week at the earliest before markets regain their bearings. That's normal, because markets often slide on external shocks.

The day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in 1963, for example, the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell nearly 3 percent.

And in 1990, the Dow and the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index both slid because of the 1990 Gulf crisis, which helped plunge the United States into its last economic recession.

The Dow's close that year? 2,633.66. The S&P closed at 330.22. An investor who bailed out and stayed out would have since then missed nearly 13-percent annual returns on the Dow, and nearly 12 percent on the S&P. The Dow closed Monday at 9,605.51, and the S&P at 1,092.54.

Recession a risk

Even if markets do fall when trading resumes, experts say long-term investors shouldn't try to market time.

Markets, they say, digest information too fast to leave any room to hide. Bearish trading strategies such as buying gold or selling stocks short are best left to professionals, they say.

It is true that Tuesday's attacks could curb investors' appetite to shop. That could plunge the ailing US economy into a full-blown recession.

"Remember back to when (Princess) Diana died" in 1997, said Louise Purtle, a bond strategist at Deutsche Banc Alex Brown. "There was a direct impact on retail sales. People just became so depressed that something like that could happen that they didn't want to go out and spend any money."

Different choices

For nervous investors, there are plenty of options.

If they can accept low returns in exchange for peace of mind, they may choose a money market mutual fund with a low expense ratio, ideally 0.5 percent or less. Or, they can buy a bank certificate of deposit, whose yields can top 4 percent.

For those willing to put principal at risk, there are ultrashort and short-term bond funds, which buy bonds maturing in three years or fewer. Or, investors may look to traditional defensive stocks such as those in the health care and consumer staple sectors. ***Reuters***

Do what works best . . .

(From page C8)

He adds that most of the anchors in CNBC are from the Asia Business News (which merged with CNBC in 1998), and it is a must for them to be smart, to know and understand business.

"You have to identify the best people who will work for you," he says.

He describes his style of management as aggressive, thorough and people-oriented.

"My goal is not to have a high turnover," Goodfellow states.

Beyond the human resources, Goodfellow also has to make sure that they provide their viewers not just with hard news but with interesting features.

"We will do more personal finance types of programming," he states, which will include retirement plans, making money from collectibles like antiques.

There are plans to feature more business in the Philippines as it is now a potential market considering it is the only country where it is shown on free TV. In all other countries, CNBC can only be accessed via a cable network.

Goodfellow is a man who looks like he really is enjoying his work.

His foray into journalism was really by accident.

"I chose journalism because I didn't know what I wanted to major in and it had the broadest choice of electives," he says.

In college he was editor in chief of their school paper, which was a daily 16-page publication.

His main interest however had been TV and it was not long before he applied in a network.

He believes the immediacy of TV is unbeatable in print. The emotional level in watching the events is much higher.

On the lighter side, Goodfellow has a passion for bird watching so he often goes to the nature parks in Singapore.

His wife is a full-time homemaker who stays in San Diego, California. He has two daughters—one of whom is going into the medical field and the other is taking up law. *(Feedback to mespino@inquirer.com.ph)*

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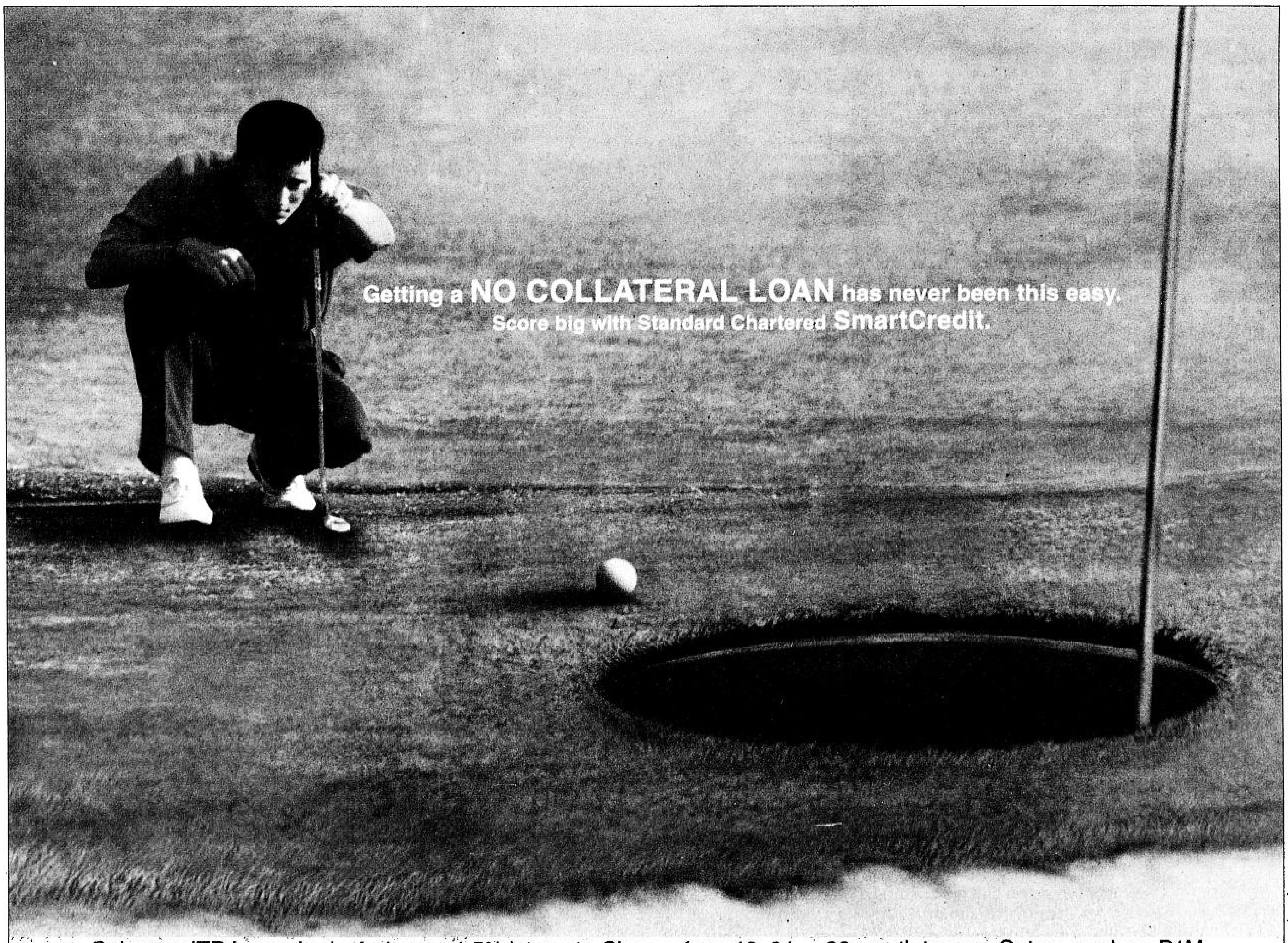

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BUSINESS*Monday*

Do what works best, then improve on it

BY MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO

SCOTT GOODFELLOW

THE GOAL of many young journalists is to become an anchor person. But when Scott Goodfellow achieved this goal, all he could think of was to get to the other side of the camera and watch over the production and management of the news.

Goodfellow, the chief executive officer of CNBC Asia Pacific, the financial news channel that can be viewed in the Philippines via Channel 11, recently took time off to talk to two journalists from Manila at the 31st floor of the International Plaza building in Singapore.

MANAGEMENT STYLES

"I covered all the normal things—police, the Everglades, Asian immigrants, Fort Lauderdale and then went to the studio as an anchor when I became interested in production and management," says Goodfellow.

That was a couple of decades ago when Goodfellow was still with the ABC network in Miami, Florida.

Today, Goodfellow has the task of propelling CNBC as the top provider of business news programs in the Asia-Pacific region. From Singapore, he oversees the operations and administration aspects of the channel and is involved in the development of the service on the distribution , editorial and marketing fronts.

The task has to be done amid the current recession in Japan and the threat of one in the US and the failure of other Asian countries to totally get out of a slump.

But Goodfellow boasts that every single year of CNBC in Asia has yielded increases in advertising revenues.

"Even with the downturn," he adds. Goodfellow says he expects the trend to continue.

CNBC currently occupies the unique position of being the only network that wholly focuses on financial news presented not in a technical manner like Bloomberg. In many of its segments, it has adopted light and entertaining styles, removing some of the stiffness traditionally associated with business news.

He points out that it's advantage is that it has a unique business model.

"We do not have the say business model (as CNN)—they do general news, we do financial news."

CNN's model, which is general news, is difficult to be in, muses Goodfellow, because you do not always have things going on around the world that can make people rivet to the TV for news.

He says before the World Trade tragedy there have been no big news around the world other than the US elections.

CNBC's advantage is that "every little thing on our screen is of interest to our viewers as opposed to waiting for some big news story to come down."

However because of it's tie-up with NBC, a leading TV network in the US, it has been able to provide good coverage of the tragedy.

One of its most popular programs is the Squawk Box, what it calls its signature program. The show tracks investment strategies, interviews prominent business figures, and debates and debunks the latest market rumors in unscripted and unpredictable live "pre-game" show to the global business market day.

Goodfellow admits that when they put the anchors of the show together they were not sure there would be good chemistry among them.

"That's easily the hardest thing to do," he says on choosing people.

But his policy is "ultimately, you do what you think is best and then you do it and then you see how it goes and then you try to improve on it. Once you get people there, you adjust all sorts of things."

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Sun WTC workers safe; IT executives killed in Flight 11

BY ERWIN G. OLIVA

EMPLOYEES of computer maker Sun Microsystems Inc., assigned at the World Trade Center office, were all accounted for and are safe, the company said in a statement on Thursday.

More than 300 Sun employees worked at the World Trade Center office, which served as a flexible field office, housing employees of the company's Global Sales and Enterprise Services organizations, the company said.

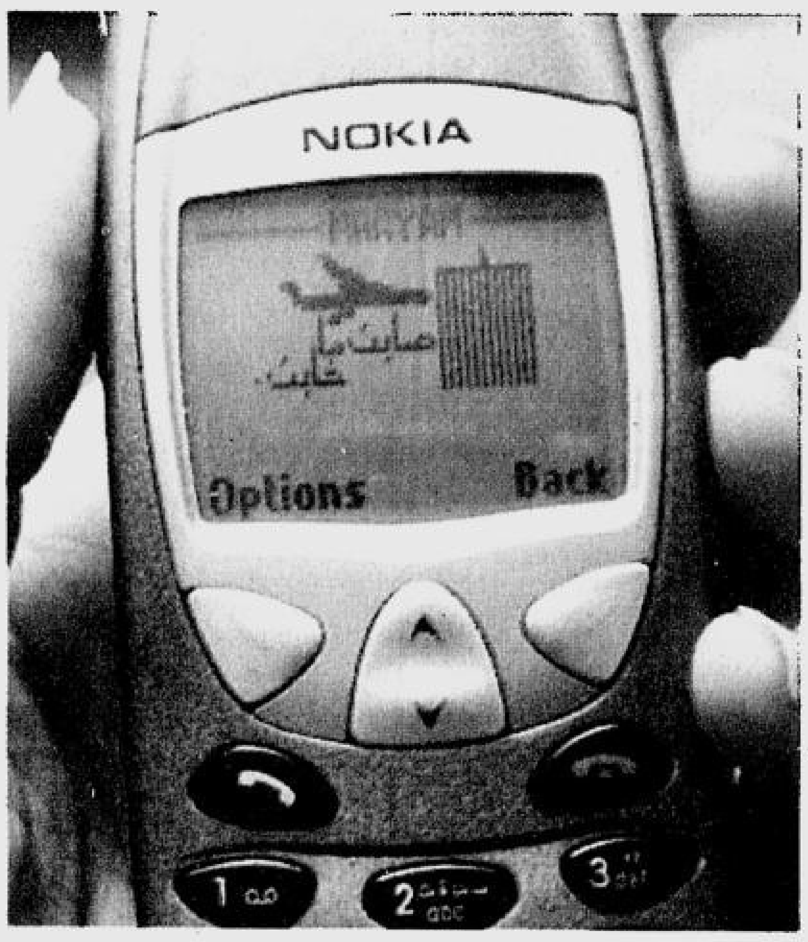
"At this time, we have accounted for all WTC-based employees and we are extremely relieved that those employees are safe," Sun officials said.

Sun occupies the 25th and 26th floor of the South Tower of the World Trade Center, which was the second building to be hit by the commercial airplanes commandeered by terrorists on Sept. 11.

Phil Rosenzweig, director of Sun's software organization, however, was among the passengers on American Airlines Flight 11 that perished. Rosenzweig, 47, has been with Sun since 1991. He worked in Burlington, Massachusetts, and was on his way to Los Angeles.

"This has been a tragic event for our country and has touched all of us at Sun. Our prayers and thoughts are with Phil's family and loved

SUN/ p. D3



EVEN ON CELL PHONES

A message appears on a mobile phone which shows a plane approaching a building and under it is written in Arabic: "It hit and did not miss," in an apparent reference to the planes that hit the New York World Trade Center on Sept. 11. The text image was sent by a Palestinian living in Syria to a friend in Switzerland and then was forwarded to a friend in Egypt. Two passenger planes struck the twin towers of the World Trade Center while another hit the Pentagon in a wave of attacks on the United States. AFP

Cell phone firms help search for missing in New York

WASHINGTON—A coalition of mobile phone and pager manufacturers and wireless carriers are joining forces to try to find possible survivors in the rubble of the World Trade Center twin towers, officials said on Friday.

Families and friends of suspected victims from Tuesday's disaster can call a toll-free number and give the mobile phone numbers and pager numbers so Lucent Technologies Inc. and others in the wireless industry can try to locate the devices and, hopefully, survivors.

"They're going to utilize that information, and in cooperation with FEMA (Federal Emergency Man-

CELL/ p. D3

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Mobile surfing to get better with new GPRS technology

BY THE fourth quarter of this year, many mobile phone manufacturers would have launched their own GPRS (General Packet Radio Service) phones.

GPRS is a packet-based system for GSM that can handle higher data speeds than the existing circuit switched GSM system and is ideal for bursty data applications. Because of this, some people who are thinking of buying a new phone are waiting until GPRS phones are widely available in the market before they finally buy a new phone.

However, not many know that, with GPRS technology, existing WAP services will also improve.

According to an article in the July issue of What Cellphone, a popular magazine in the United Kingdom about mobile communications, GPRS is not about to replace GSM (Global System for Mobile communications).

"GPRS is effectively an extension of the existing GSM network, and is designed to co-exist with other GSM services like regular voice communication, SMS (text messages) and the conventional (circuit-switched) method of sending data over GSM," the article explained.

Currently, WAP phones use GSM data to access information sites but the transfer rate is limited to 9600 bits per second (bps). Because of this limitation, and the increasing popularity of on-line services, the mobile communications worked to develop GPRS.

"The new system brings GSM into the Internet age and is seen as a stepping stone between today's GSM and tomorrow's 3G (Third Generation). GPRS is more efficient than regular GSM data because precious radio spectrum is only consumed when those packets of data are actually being sent. In addition, it's potentially faster," the article said..

A GPRS phone can be continuously online as a long as the phone is switched on. This would allow the user to receive emails instantaneously. Unlike text messages, however, the length of the e-mail one can receive is no longer limited to 160 characters. You can actually download entire e-mail messages to your phone.

"Another advantage of GPRS is that you're always contactable on your mobile number, even when you're in the middle of a data session. Anyone who tries to call a current WAP phone when its user is online will be greeted with an engaged tone. GPRS users, on the other hand, can take calls," the article noted.

"WAP will be a good deal more responsive with GPRS. In most cases, you'll only have to connect once a day—and you'll remain connected, with none of the slow log-in processes that current WAP users have to endure every time they want to connect. The faster data rates will mean that pages will load faster, too," the article explained further.

What's more, users will only pay for information sent and received, they can take their time reading a WAP page without incurring any additional charges. With the GPRS network system in place WAP users can thus expect online services to get better.

To get a taste of the varied WAP services available now, Panasonic Mobile Phones recently released an affordable WAP phone called the Panasonic GD35. The GD35 is an introduction to browsing for forward-thinking teenagers and young-minded adults. The easy-to-use WAP function of the GD35 is accessed by simply pressing and holding the "@" key. The handset's large visual display also makes browsing much more comfortable and user friendly.

The new handset from Panasonic is also stylish and is available in three funky colors, Winter White, Black Ice and Cool Blue. The GD35 has a whole host of other useful features. For serious texters the GD35 has a range of pre-programmed SMS messages as well as predictive text input and a choice of two cool animations when your text message is delivered. With all these, plus 20 different ring tones and a game called "4."

The GD35 also features built-in Vibration Alert, Alert Profiling, Calculator and Clock/Alarm. It weighs a mere 109 grams with dimensions of 120.5 x 46 x 20.5 mm. It has a talktime of up to 360 minutes and a standby time of up to 175 hours.

RP youth could be future computer whiz kids

By Jovelyn Reyes

BAGUIO CITY—With the countless children hooked to computer games even during school hours, the country could produce abundant computer wizards in the near future, information technology experts predicted.

Elbert de Guzman, assistant vice president for network services of the Systems Technology Institute, said that with proper motivation and training, children could use their fascination for computers into a lucrative business in information technology someday.

He said children addicted to computer gaming could create their own digital animation.

Noting this trend, he said STI is studying the possibility of incorporating digital arts subjects in the school curriculum next year that will focus on game development, creation of digital animations and game programming.

He urged parents to hone their children's interest and potential in computer games instead of discouraging them.

"It is the STI's aim to channel that interest towards a more productive career of game development when they grow up," De Guzman said. "People whose interest in computer gaming started since childhood are most likely to succeed into game development business someday where one software costs billions in the IT commercial market."

He said even the three-decade-old "game of the generals" has been turned into a multimedia software.

In Baguio, more than 100 computer shops have started introducing the software to children since late last year. The city government, however, is bent on closing down some of these computer centers for violating the ordinance regulating the entry of minors. Five computer shops had been ordered closed in the wake of mounting complaints that schoolchildren addicted to computer gaming had been skipping classes. Under the city ordinance, elementary pupils are not allowed to enter computer shops.

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If you are using Digital Video (DV) equipment, the built-in 1394 port of the Matrox RT2500 can help you digitally transfer the DV footage to your editing system in its native DV format without recompression or transcoding, in effect preserving the quality of your video.

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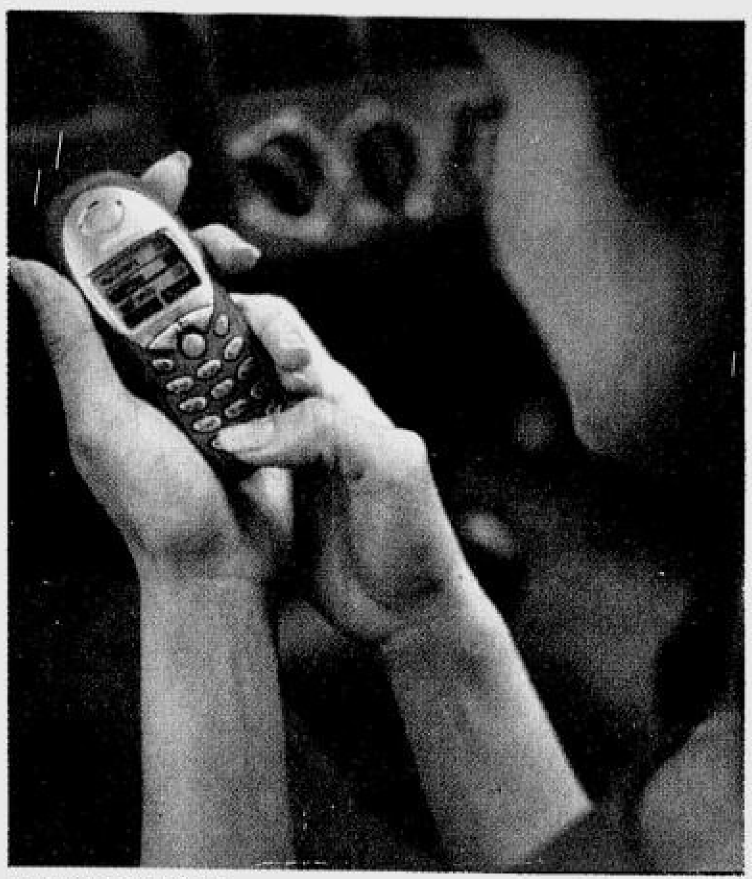

THE SIEMENS C45

Games mobile people play

By Joey G. Alarilla

ISTANBUL—Siemens is now trying to do for mobile phones what Apple's colorful and revolutionary iMac did for the personal computer.

The German telecommunications firm held a global preview of a new mass-market phone called the C45 on Sept. 11 in this historic city.

Around 140 Asian and European journalists converged in Istanbul to witness and test-drive working models of the new entry-level phone, scheduled for commercial release this October.

It will be launched in China as the Chinese character-enabled C2118—the choice of number being a question of *feng shui*.

Does Siemens expect to change the perception of what a mobile phone is in the same way the best-selling iMac transformed the way people look at personal computers?

"In a way, especially since the iMac was driven by design. But it is also not so much design that was responsible for the iMac's success but also color and material. That's really what will be interesting in the future—the choice of color and material," said Ulrich Skrypalle, director for product design for Designafairs GmbH, in response to a question from the INQUIRER.

Designafairs, originally one of the divisions of Siemens AG, was spun off and now also handles the design needs of other firms, including car manufacturers.

Personalization was the mantra of the Siemens officials in launching the C45. The most obvious expression of this is the availability of the handset in eight different colors—apart from the two standard ones of African Grey and Oriental Blue.

Georges Boulloy, Siemens AG's senior vice president for product operations for Information and Communications Mobile, stressed, however, that this drive toward more personalization is more than skin deep.

The company has introduced CLIPit covers that differentiate your phone from others.

While Boulloy claimed that they did this better than their competitor (i.e., Nokia) with its cell phone housings, what is really novel and significant is that Siemens is the first to create an interactive gaming zone and online community for mobile phone users (www.my-siemens.com/city).

Apart from the usual ring tone and logo downloads, this online community allows users to design their own CLIPit covers, giving more choice to consumers and allowing design to be truly driven by individuals.

Once you log on to the site, you can create the design online and then send it. Your personalized cover will then be shipped within 15 days.

Boulloy pointed out that apart from allowing individual expression, this online setup allows the company to cut down on inventory since it's a build-to-order (BTO) system.

Of course, one possible drawback is that we will see a lot of strange-looking cell phones around but who's to argue with their choice of how they express themselves.

Asked if Siemens also sees this BTO system being applied to the manufacturing of customized handsets, Boulloy replied: "Absolutely. I think it's not the ultimate goal—we have many goals for our future products and our online services—but I think it's a logical next step."

Boulloy also stressed that convergence means that Siemens is also betting on gaming and entertainment as important markets in its drive to make cell phones more ubiquitous.

In partnership with Battlemail, creator of the world's first e-mail-base gaming platform, the C45 will also allow users to play wireless multi-player interactive games on their mobiles.

Players from all over the world can send commands using SMS (short message service, popularly known as text messaging in the Philippines). They will then see the results in rich interactive multimedia.

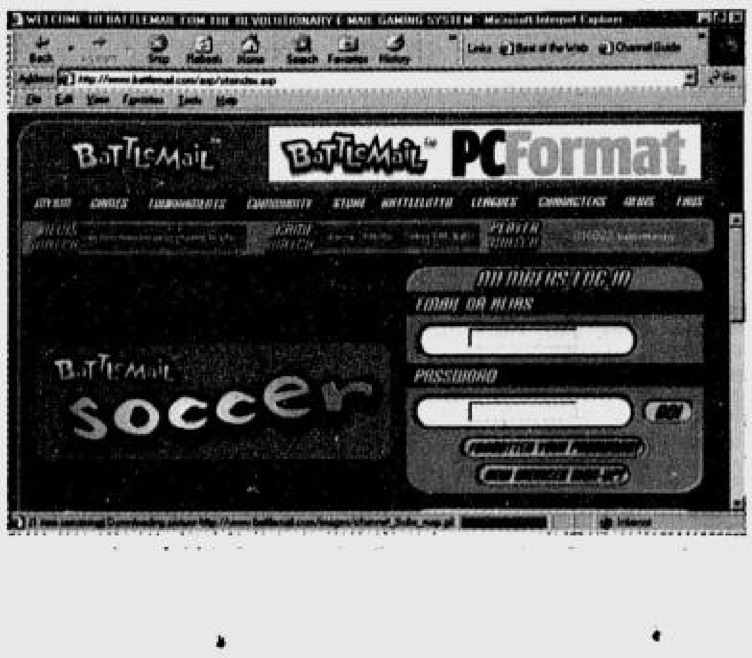
Again, the online community plays an important role, since the name of the game is not just products but personalized services.

While excited over the potential of wireless gaming and entertainment on the mobile phone, Siemens AG senior vice president for Global Marketing for Information and Communication Mobile warned against the tendency to think of single killer applications.

"If we knew what the killer app will be, then network operators wouldn't have to ask about this too much. I think the past has shown that small things like ring tones and logos, as well as SMS, have been the killer apps," Appel said. He stressed that the key is to combine design and functionality, while adding little personalized touches and services. As we know, such touches are vital for consumers.

The entry-level C45 is WAP (wireless application protocol)-enabled, but one feature it will not have is GPRS. Boulloy pointed out that the product is for the mass market.

"GPRS is not yet ready for the mass market," he said.



Quiet Nintendo GameCube launch in Japan comes at crucial time

NINTENDO'S new video game box, the GameCube, launched in Japan on Friday without the hoopla of previous console launches, raises a question over its prospects in the United States at a sensitive time for the industry.

Sales in Japan on Friday were described by retailers as strong for Nintendo Co. Ltd.'s new console, but nothing like the frenzy that surrounded the launch of Sony Corp.'s PlayStation 2 console, which also plays DVDs. Nintendo said it is pleased with the first-day sales performance of the new machine, but other industry watchers were cautious about the fortunes of game publishers ahead of the US launch due Nov. 18.

One analyst said video game publishers could have a harder time meeting sales targets set for the crucial year-end period. *Reuters*

POCKETPC USERS UNITE

Story of Star Wars, Merlin and Paquito

BY ERWIN LEMUEL G. OLIVA

LAST Friday, a group of PocketPC users (around 10 of us) gathered for the first time to learn more about our little but powerful device. Armed with my Paquito (the name I have christened my Compaq iPAQ), I was very excited to meet other people (not all Filipinos, mind you) who have come to love the PocketPC handheld device (Of course, I also wanted to meet new people).

This first of a series of gatherings of PocketPC users was done at the Mobile1 shop at Park Square in Glorietta, Makati City.

Surrounded by different brands of handheld devices, accessories and computers, we began introducing ourselves to each other. The group was composed of mostly "moderate" PocketPC users, some novice users and a handful of curious onlookers who happened to stop by the shop.

"We're the few who have gone to the dark side," Nono Felipe, founding member of the Mapalad group (local group of Palm users) and also former MP3Manila top honcho, said in jest.

After hearing each one's spiel, Carlo Guerero—our PocketPC tutor—began his demonstration. He began with the basic features of the PocketPC. Then he proceeded to show us some tips and features that we never even realized existed.

We were like a bunch of kids marveling at this bigger kid who was showing off his brand new toy (Well, most of us were playing around with our PocketPC while Carlo was showing the novice users how to use the calendar, the scheduler and the notes).

"I didn't know you could do that," said the young Chinese-Filipino Jorweeck Kingsu, as Carlo showed us a few tricks and tips on using the calendar application.

Aside from the people who have gathered that Friday night, there appears to be a growing number of PocketPC users in the Philippines.

While Palm and Handspring still dominate the handheld industry, Microsoft, Intel and the handheld makers—Casio, Hewlett-Packard and Compaq—are set to introduce soon better versions of PocketPC devices that will literally blow one's mind away.

Around fourth quarter of 2001 or early 2002, new PocketPC devices will be released. Just to name a few: Toshiba will soon sell its Genio, a 32-megabyte RAM PocketPC device that runs on Intel's 206 StrongARM processor, and comes with SD/MMC slot AND CF type II slots. Meanwhile, Hewlett Packard will soon release two versions of the Jornada 560: one with 32Mb of RAM, and the other with 64Mb RAM.

Both of these small but mean machines will run on the new PocketPC version codenamed "Merlin."

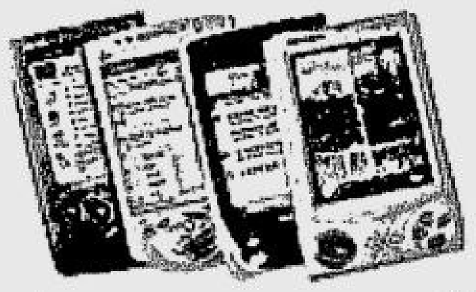
Merlin is Microsoft's new PocketPC operating system that resembles the soon-to-be-launched Windows OS, Windows XP, according to industry sources. It will, however, still be based on the version 3.0 of Windows CE. Microsoft is reportedly working "secretly" on a new CE version codenamed, Talisker.

Merlin will likely be available before the holiday season comes, Microsoft officials said.

IPAQ users could readily upgrade from their existing PocketPC OS to Merlin once it is available because it is the only device that contains a flash ROM that can be updated. Users of the the other PocketPC devices, such as the HP Jornada and Casio's Casiopeia have to wait for the new devices that has the Merlin installed.

In my case, I really don't care much about the OS upgrade as much as I do with the availability of accessories and applications. Locally, accessories, such as keyboard, compact flash sleeves for iPAQs, modems for PocketPC are now available but at not-so-affordable prices. Applications for the PocketPC also abound now on the Internet or in news groups of PocketPC users.

Would I ever think twice of going back to using Palm or Handspring? Hmmm…Unless it can play movie trailers, MP3 and show colorful JPEG files, then…it's a no-brainer.



POCKETPCs from Hewlett-Packard, Compaq and Casio

HYPERLINK

Visit http://www.wiredguy.com/wired/exclusive/video/09.12.2001/index.html for more on new HP Jornadas and Toshiba Genio.

Cell phone firms help search for missing victims in New York

(From page D1)

agement Administration), in their efforts to try and locate any survivors," said Denny Betz, a spokeseprson for BellSouth Corp.

"We have established the call center that will receive calls from family and friends of suspected victims and from those people we will gather information about whatever wireless devices they may have," he said.

That would include mobile phones, the telephone numbers as well as pagers and the pin numbers used to send messages.

The toll-free number is 1-877-348-8579, FEMA said. The coalition has dubbed itself the Wireless Emergency Response Team.

Four US commercial airliners were hijacked on Sept. 11, two of which slammed into the World Trade Center twin towers, a third hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, and the fourth crashed in a field near Pittsburgh.

About 4,763 people are missing as a result of the collapse of the twin towers and another 126 people were missing at the Pentagon. Heavy rains fell on Friday in New York slowing the efforts to sift through the rubble.

Among those participating in the effort are AT&T Wireless Services Inc., Verizon Wireless, Nextel Communications, VoiceStream Wireless, Motorola Inc., Ericsson, Nortel Networks Corp., SkyTel, Telcordia Technologies, Cingular Wireless and two wireless industry organizations, Betz said.

Wireless networks were overwhelmed on Tuesday with calls when the attacks occurred as Americans tried to dial for help as well as reach friends and family to let them know they were alive and well.

Additionally, with the destruction of the towers, several mobile phone transmitters were lost making it harder for calls to be connected.

The World Trade Center attack is the most devastating in the history of the United States, and its impact is likened to the bombing of Pearl Harbor. *Reuters*

Sun WTC workers safe, IT executives killed in Flight 11

(From page D1)

ones," said Scott McNealy, chair and chief executive officer of Sun Microsystems.

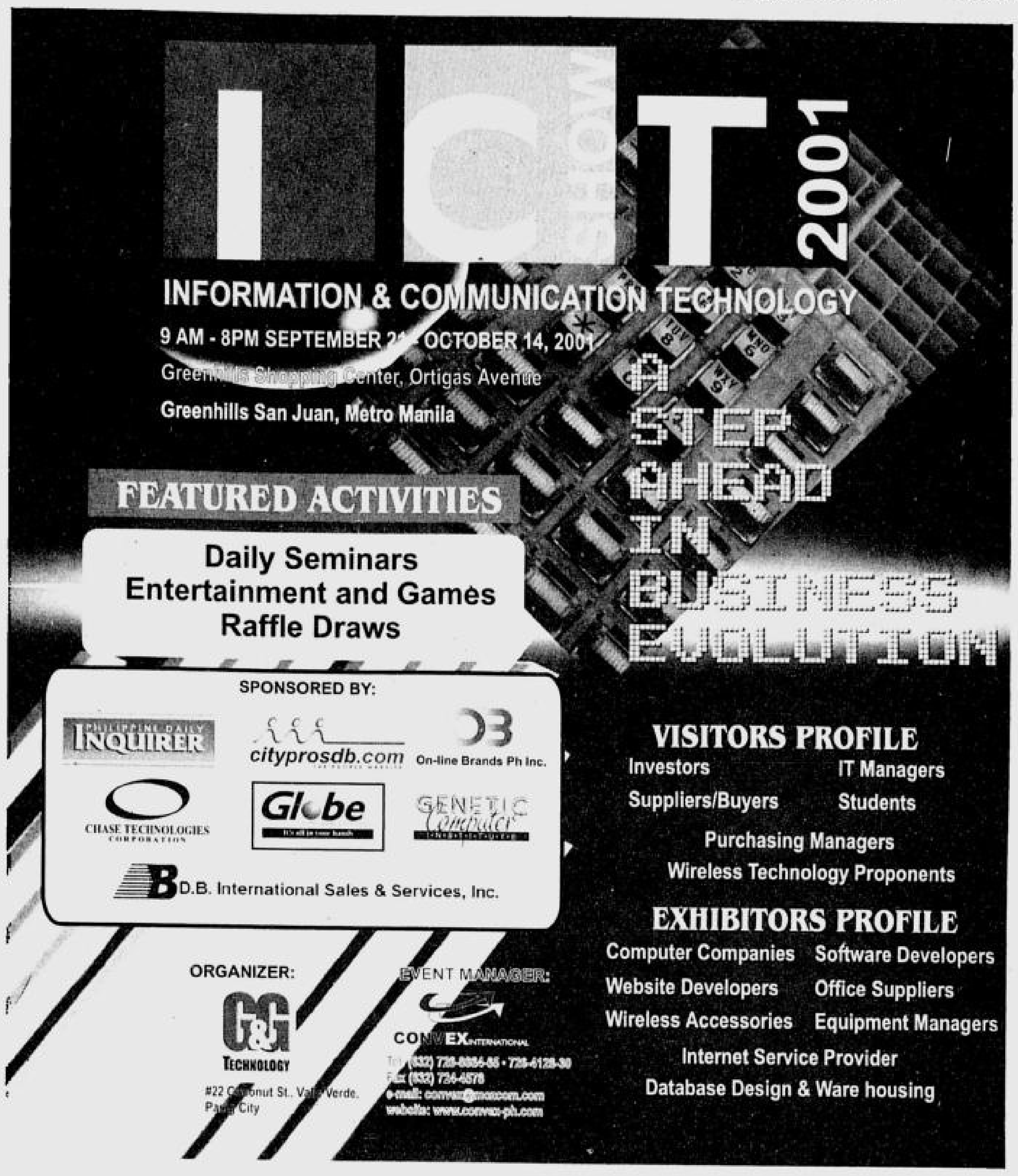
"Although we are relieved that our WTC employees are safe, we are devastated by the tremendous losses that are being suffered by America. As a company, we are in the process of helping our customers and partners whose businesses and services have been impacted. It is with great sadness and shock that we are dealing with this loss," Sun officials added.

Rosenzweig is the third IT executive to perish in the hijacked planes that were used by terrorists in the attacks.

Daniel C. Lewin, 31, co-founder and chief technical officer of Boston-based Akamai Technologies, and Edmund Glazer, 41, the chief financial officer of MRV Communications Inc. were both on the American Airlines flight 11 bound from Boston to Los Angeles.

Other IT executives who have died in the four hijacked planes include: Steven Jacoby, chief operating officer and vice president of Metrocall, a paging and wireless messaging service firm; James Hayden, chief financial officer of Netegrity, an e-business software management firm; Four employees of Raytheon, a defense and aircraft technology maker.

Employees of software company Oracle, application service provider eLogic, and e-commerce software firm BEA systems were also on board the ill-fated flights.



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UP students win top prize in Asia-Pacific ICT awards

By Erwin Oliva

STUDENTS from the University of the Philippines recently won one of the top prizes in the first Asia Pacific Information and Communications (ICT) Awards held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia recently.

Engineering students Enesto Pile, 23, and Jerremo Raynier Gabas, 22, and Library Science major Aljo Fabro, 22, bested more than 70 entries from countries like Australia, Brunei, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand in the student category.

The students, who called themselves the UP Dilnet Webteam, developed a web-based solution for e-learning and distance education called University Virtual Learning Environment (UVLE).

UVLE is web-based software that provides students a means to deliver and organize learning materials through an integrated set of utilities.

A virtual discussion room utility, for instance, allow teachers and students to interact on various topics.

The UVLE also has a file manager utility where documents, files and even audio clips can be shared among students. A course calendar/scheduler utility also keeps students inform about activities, examinations, deadlines and other class-related events.

The students developed UVLE using open source technologies. They also used free software platforms to keep implementation costs at a minimum.

Aside from UVLE, six other Philippine entries competed in the awards.

"Our locally developed software products are globally competitive and marketable. What we need is an effective system for promoting them. Also, our local developers should be trained to negotiate the best terms for their products," Department of Science and Technology Undersecretary Fortunato dela Peña, who headed the Philippine delegation to Malaysia, said in a statement.

Other winners of the 1st APICT awards were entries from Malaysia (6), Australia (2) and Hong Kong (1).

The DOST is the endorsing body to the APICT Awards for the Philippines. Winners were selected by an international panel of judges made up of three representatives each from the participating countries. The judges represented the government, academe and industry sectors.

The competition had nine professional categories and two subcategories for the student level. A total of 76 nominations were submitted for the Awards. Aside from the Philippines, nine other countries participated.

Camarines Sur to open 1st ISP owned by LGU

By Juan Escandor Jr.
Southern Luzon Bureau

NAGA CITY—The provincial government of Camarines Sur will be the first local government unit to become an Internet service provider and it aims to hook subscribers to the information highway of the cyberspace for 24 hours a day.

Gov. Luis Villafuerte of Camarines Sur said that the provincial government has already installed the hardware and satellite transceivers at the Information Technology Center Building, Capitol Complex, Pili, Camarines Sur.

Villafuerte said that the Philcomsat, through its local agent, Beacon Computer Systems Inc., has just installed a VSAT IP (very small aperture terminal Internet protocol) enabler transceiver disk, a device measuring 2.4 meters in diameter and stands about five meters tall.

He added that the apparatus could withstand winds up to 120 kilometers per hour and provide an Internet speed of 64 kilobytes per second. It can download with the same speed even during bad weather.

Villafuerte said that the apparatus has been installed with a technology feature enabled to upgrade the downloading speed without changing the hardware.

"The provincial government will now cease to be a mere subscriber and will now be a provider of fast and affordable Internet access in the province of Camarines Sur,'' he said.

Villafuerte said that the ISP would be managed by a group of technologically skilled workers of the newly established Information Technology Center (ITC).

He said that the operation of the ISP would also enable the provincial government to maintain its own web page and at the same time, create its own portal that could compete with AltaVista, MSN and Yahoo.

Villafuerte said that the operation of ISP is a self-generating venture that could finance further technological initiatives of the provincial government.

The IT venture of the provincial government here started two years ago when it opened a Cyberspace Café at the Plaza Rizal in downtown Naga City.

Handspring units to get more memory

HANDSPRING Inc. on Friday said it will unveil next week two new handheld computers, including one that boasts to double the memory of most of the devices made by its rivals.

The Mountain View, California-based company said that it would debut the Visor Pro, a rechargeable, expandable handheld with 16 megabytes of memory, at about $299. Handspring, one of the most popular makers of personal digital assistants, or PDAs, runs on the Palm OS operating system, which is made by Palm Inc. Most other Palm OS devices, including those developed by Sony Corp. and Palm itself, which only come with eight megabytes, although they can be expanded via removable memory cards.

Reuters

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Amazingly, Matrox RTMac not just capture video, it also has 48 KHz unbalanced stereo RCA audio capture that digitizes audio while maintaining perfect sync with your video.

FULL VIEW AND WORK

Less connections yet more productivity is one of the winning edge of Matrox RTMac. With its digital video on console display, you can get full resolution viewing either on an NTSC or PAL video monitor without the need to connect any DV device to your Power Mac G4.

Also, it can give you the freedom and the ample, space to view your work by simply connecting a second computer monitor to increase your Final Cut Pro workspace.

REALTIME CREATIVITY

Now, your search for the wildest idea and concepts can be delivered by Matrox RTMac in realtime. With its 16:9 support, you can edit in a wide screen format--work on two video layers or the other way around simultaneously.

Powered by Matrox Flex 3D, this revolutionary video mixing and effects architecture exploits the optimum performance of Matrox graphics accelerator technology, providing wide variety of broadcast quality effects in realtime. You don't have to wait to render your applications--giving you more quality output in less time.

Some of Matrox RTMac's video editing capabilities are *Linear Alpha Keying*--overlay titles, logos and graphics on your video. *Transitions* that can give excitement to your material are cross dissolve, wipe, slide or iris effects. *Motion effects* to play your viewer's imagination are scaling, rotation, position cropping, distortion, drop shadow and opacity.

ENHANCED PRODUCTIVITY

Just like Matrox RTMac's capture capability, you can export back your edited material to DV format without transcoding through the support of Final Cut Pro and G4 FireWire ports. Record your digitized and finished projects to tape using any standard VHS, S-VHS or VCR--most of all, make a digitized audio in sync with your video with Matrox RTMac 48 KHz unbalanced stereo RCA audio output.

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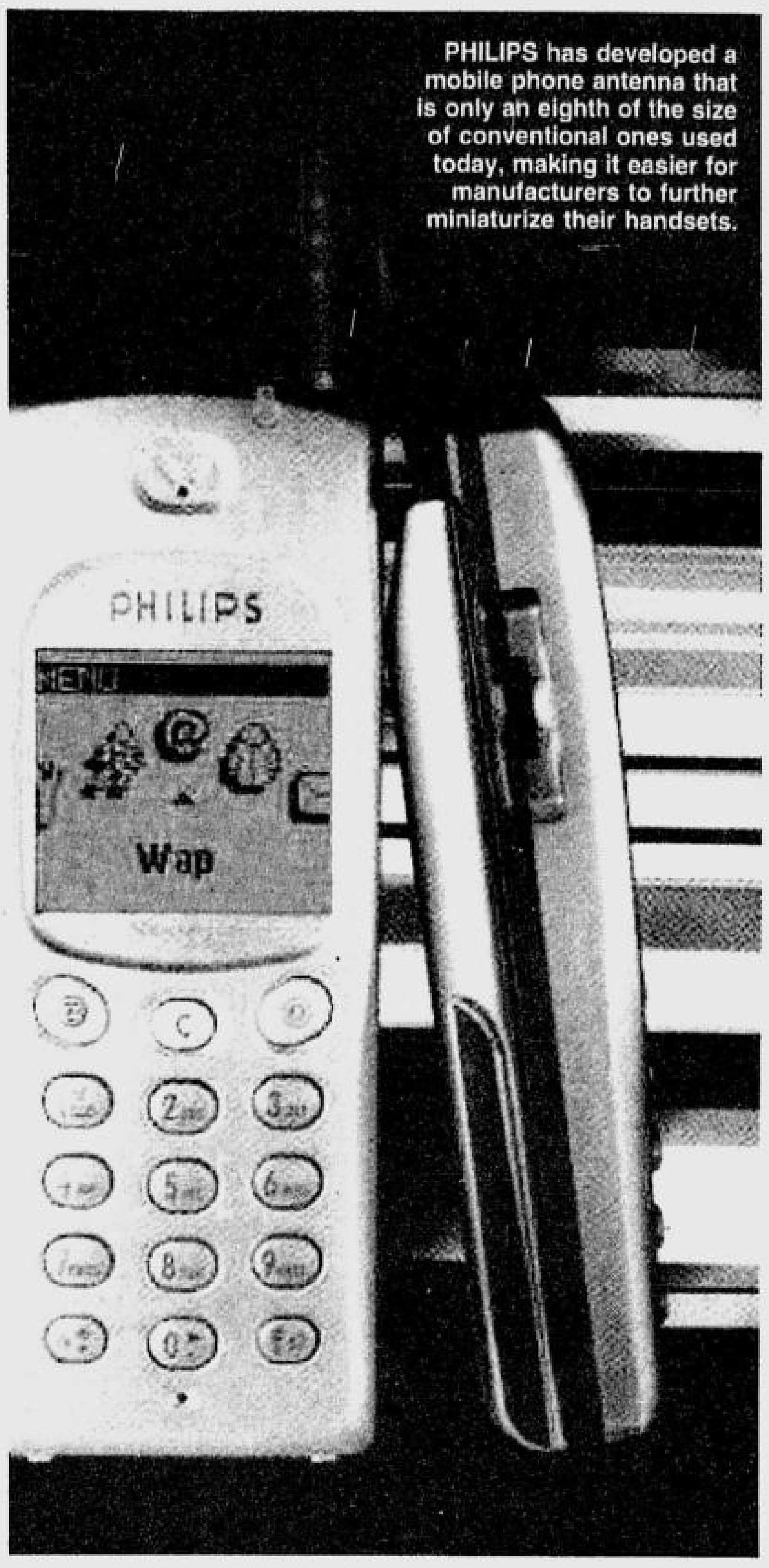
ORCALE Corp, the largest provider of software for e-business, has just announced that industry-leading consulting companies are turning to Oracle9i Application Server (Oracle9iAS) to deliver complete and cost-effective Internet solutions for their customers.

Partners announcing their support for Oracle9iAS include Answerthink, ArsDigita, Broadreach Consulting, CGE&Y, Data Systems Worldwide, Deloitte Consulting, Diversified Computer Consultants, The Revere Group, Syntel and TUSC.

Oracle9iAS, the industry's most complete application server, is a compelling choice for system integrators seeking to provide their customers with a scalable and reliable deployment platform for mission critical Internet applications.

"The complete and integrated capabilities of Oracle9i Application Server are ideal for our clients on the forefront of data and application management," said Diana Billingham, head of the Global Technology Consulting Practice of Cap, Gemini, Ernst & Young. "Oracle's strategic e-business vision will help us continue to deliver ultimate business value to our customers."

Oracle9iAS reduces hardware requirements for high-volume Internet business applications.



PHILIPS has developed a mobile phone antenna that is only an eighth of the size of conventional ones used today, making it easier for manufacturers to further miniaturize their handsets.

Philips develops smallest antenna for mobile phones

PHILIPS has recently announced its latest breakthrough in mobile communications—a miniaturized antenna that, industry experts say, will play an important role in future mobile telecoms applications, such as the wristwatch with a monitor-equipped telephone.

The antenna, which is eight times smaller than conventional antennas, delivers comparable performance.

The first step toward the integration of antennas has now been taken, thanks to the unique use of special high-tech ceramics combined with Philips' new manufacturing methods.

"Today the trend is toward increasingly smaller handsets. Until now it has been the conventional antenna that was the limiting factor in the design of new handsets. The ceramic antennas enable us to produce entirely new generations of mobile communications equipment," explained Dr. Robert Gossink, head of the German Philips Research Laboratories.

Telephone manufacturers today use antenna designs that are based on a combination of plastic and metal, which they conceal in the housing. However, this technology calls for a specific antenna design for each new generation of telephones and, besides, the antenna still requires a lot of space.

The Philips mini antennas only require a fraction (1/8) of the present size and are therefore ideally suited for the miniaturization of handsets in the next generations.

The rapid development of new functions, such as the retrieval of multimedia information, Internet access via the mobile phone and new services such as WAP and UMTS, for example, demand new technologies and solutions. The miniaturization of key components plays an important role in the integration of all sorts of functions in a single handset.

In addition to the application of this antenna in mobile phones, Philips also expects to see a rapidly expanding market for radio modules. These are used for cordless data transmission, for example, between a mobile phone and computer or from one computer to another, in local area networks. The most well-known of these radio modules is the Bluetooth module that was named after the Viking king, Bluetooth.

Within the space of only a few years the market for these modules is expected to exceed the magical target of one billion items.

Consumer complainants no-show at DotPH meet

THE INDIVIDUALS who have lodged complaints against DotPH Inc. were a no-show in a meeting scheduled by the Bureau of Trade Regulations and Consumer Protection (BTRCP), an agency under the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

"The complainants were not able to show up," DTI Undersecretary Adrian Cristobal for Consumer Welfare and Trade Regulations, told the Inquirer.

He said that the complainants had confirmed their attendance earlier but cancelled during the morning the meeting was to be held. The meeting, which was the second of a series, was intended to begin the mediation process between the "PH" domain administrator and individual complainants.

"I don't know their reasons for not making it. But for our part, we were there because we wanted to get this over with. We think BTRCP has other things to do so we were there early. We don't want to waste their time and government resources," said DotPH corporate communications manager Emil Avanceña, in a separate interview.

The BTRCP, however, proceeded with the meeting, and gave a rundown on the ground rules for the mediation process.

"We reviewed the rules, wrote them down, and clarified the mediation process such as setting three meetings for each individual complainant," Cristobal said.

Despite the no-show, the government official is optimistic that both parties would resolve matters after the three meetings for each complainant. If the mediation process fails, the arbitration process would follow.

BTRCP is set to announce the schedules of mediation for each complainant next week.

BTRCP has been the agency mandated to help resolve consumer complaints lodged against DotPH.

At least 15 complaints have been filed at the BTRCP through the nonprofit organization Philippine Do-

Motorola scores breakthrough in chip technology

DR. RAVI Droopad of Motorola displays the company's solution to a problem that has vexed scientists for nearly 30 years.

MOTOROLA Inc. has announced that Motorola Labs scientists are the first to successfully combine the best properties of workhorse silicon technology with the speed and optical capabilities of high-performance compound semiconductors that are known as the III-V materials.

The discovery, which solves a problem that has been vexing the semiconductor industry for nearly 30 years, opens the door to significantly less expensive optical communications, high-frequency radio devices and high-speed microprocessor-based subsystems by potentially eliminating the current cost barriers holding back many advanced applications.

For consumers, the technology should result in smarter electronic products that cost less, perform better and have exciting new features. The technology will change the economics and accelerate the development of new applications, such as broadband "fiber" cable to the home, streaming video to cell phones and automotive collision avoidance systems.

Other potential markets include data storage, lasers for such consumer products as DVD players, medical equipment, radar, automotive electronics, lighting and photovoltaics. Until now, there has been no way to combine light-emitting semiconductors with silicon integrated circuits on a single chip and the need to use discrete components has compromised the cost, size, speed and efficiency of high-speed communications equipment and devices.

Specifically, the discovery impacts the semiconductor industry by:

- Increasing substrate size, reducing substrate cost and processing costs for III-V manufacturing
- Integrating the superior electrical and optical performance of III-V semiconductors with mature silicon technology to create a new industry based on Integrated Semiconductor Circuits

MOTOROLA/ p. D7

Smart apologizes for erratic service

MOBILE phone operator Smart Communications Inc. apologized last week for the erratic service subscribers' experienced after the operator's transmission lines were allegedly damaged by diggings conducted by the Department of Public Works and Highways in two separate areas.

Smart said that as early as Tuesday morning last week, it has restored its network to "normal operational levels."

"We wish to apologize to our subscribers for inconveniences caused during this period and we wish to thank them for their patience. We would like to request our subscribers to return to their normal calling patterns," a statement from Smart said.

Last week, Smart received initial reports that DPWH construction work allegedly damaged fiber optic lines of the operator in San Fernando, Pampanga and

SMART/ p. D7

Globe introduces 'text' sites

By Erwin Oliva

CURRENTLY dodging criticisms on its controversial plan of reducing text message allocated to subscribers, mobile phone operator Globe Telecom has recently introduced another "value-added" service, adding another layer to its growing MyGlobe services.

Called the Globe "text site" (as in website), Globe subscribers can now create a website/textsite by following simple instructions at www.myglobe.com.ph.

Unlike a regular website, a text site contains more than information. It allows subscribers to let other Globe subscribers to access personal information via short message service (SMS) or text messaging. The same information could be accessed using a WAP phone or a personal computer.

Globe said this service allows its subscribers (more than 4 million to date) to create their own "mobile e-service."

Just like any regular website, subscribers can post information (up to 160 characters) on the text site, thereby allowing others to view those information by typing a "keyword" on their mobile phones and sending it to a certain number specified by Globe.

Every keyword is unique and can only be acquired upon registration with the MyGlobe website.

Raul Guerero, senior product manager of Globe's Wireless Data Group, said that subscribers could apply for unlimited number of keywords so long as they are not yet taken or reserved.

It would take at least several days before an application for a keyword is approved because Globe wants to ensure security and authenticity of applications.

Text sites can either be public or private. Any subscriber can view a public text site as long as he or she knows the keyword, while a private text site can only be viewed by a group of persons "short-listed" by the text site creator.

A private text site is like a mailing list limited to members only. Once a text site is created, users can update it via the Internet using a personal computer or via text messaging.

At this time, Globe will not charge subscribers for reservation of keywords but will eventually do once the service becomes popular, Globe officials said.

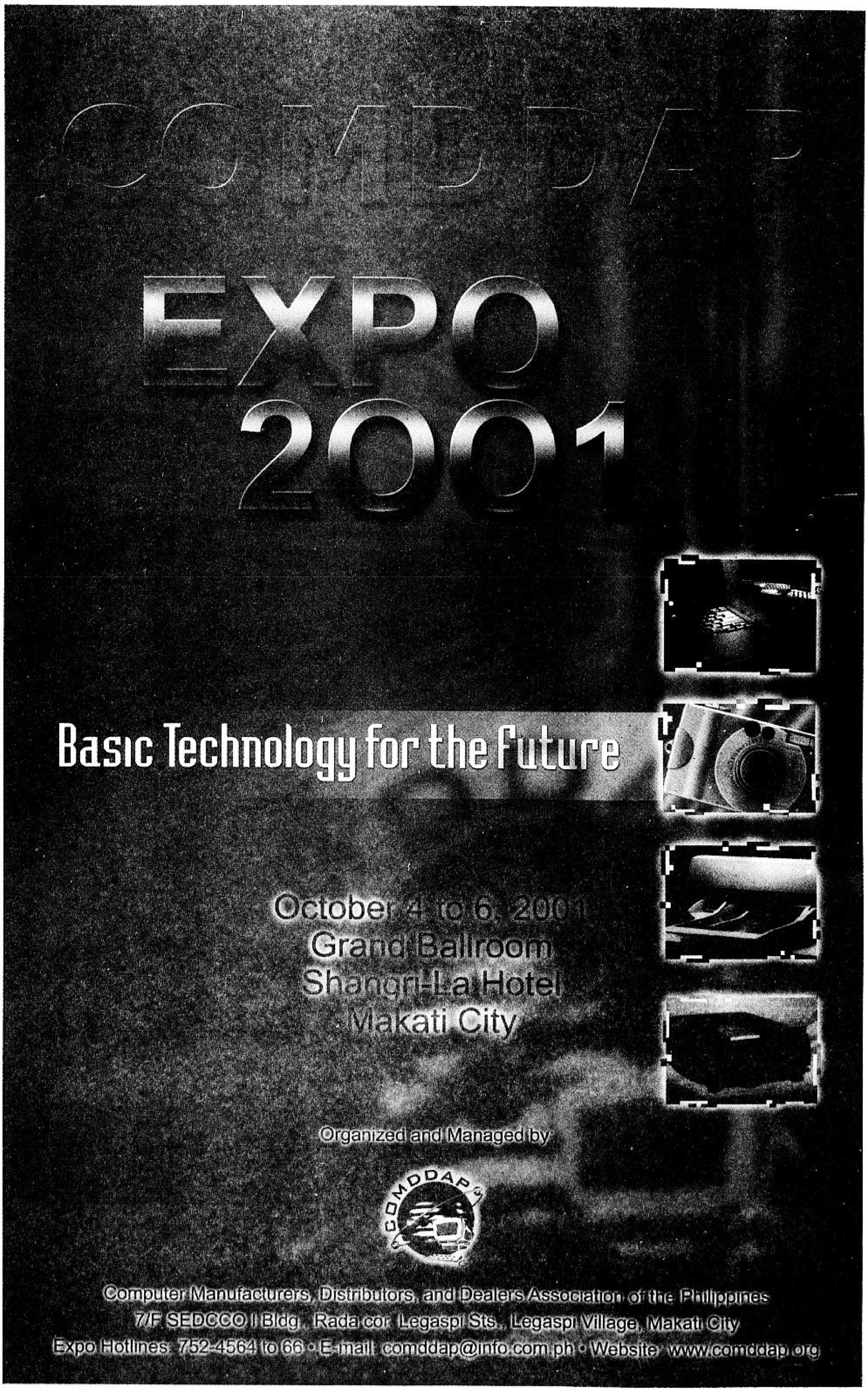
MS Great Plains enhances solutions

MICROSOFT Great Plains Business Solutions (MGPBS) has enhanced the financial and distribution applications of its Microsoft Great Plains eEnterprise Release 6.0 to improve the product's value to growing companies.

Microsoft Great Plains eEnterprise 6.0 is a proven, robust global business solution for the midmarket. Released in October 2000, eEnterprise 6.0 is the most comprehensive release in the history of Microsoft Great Plains. It addresses customer-driven enhancements in the areas of e-business, sales and purchasing, and multinational and international capabilities. Coupled with end-to-end integration of e-commerce, customer relationship management and back-office applications, eEnterprise 6.0 makes it easier for customers to operate and compete more effectively and efficiently.

The new application features, combined with eEnterprise's expanded Premier Services, lower total cost of ownership and scalability and enable them to make better business decisions faster. They enable mid-market organizations to more effectively manage financial and distribution activities through greater connectivity with their key business partners, automated processes that increase employee productivity, enhanced abilities to analyze key business data, and greatly expanded distribution capabilities.

These enhancements complement the rich scalability and multinational capabilities of eEnterprise.



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After New York, Washington attacks, businesses turn to videoconferencing

PHILADELPHIA—Indian technology consulting firm MindTree Consulting used videoconferencing to link its US workers to worried families back home after terror attacks reduced New York's landmark World Trade Center to a pile of burning rubble.

Two MindTree employees ran to safety from the crumbling Twin Towers and the rest were elsewhere. About 20 percent of MindTree's 450-person workforce is located in the US.

"Parents and wives of our employees were worried. Some of them do not know which place was where in the US," said Srinivasan Janakiraman, president of technology at MindTree, which is co-headquartered in Bangalore, India and Somerset, New Jersey.

The attacks by four hijacked airplanes Tuesday last week sparked a surge in demand for videoconferencing services as businesses and families tried to locate friends and loved ones, and emergency workers tried to coordinate rescue efforts. The unprecedented two-day ban on air travel also forced companies to find new ways to hold meetings or tend to clients.

"After the attack occurred, we saw a gigantic spike in demand with people needing to communicate and set up emergency assurance," said Ken Hayward, chief executive of VSPAN, which coordinates video, audio and Web-based conferencing services for business meetings, events and training.

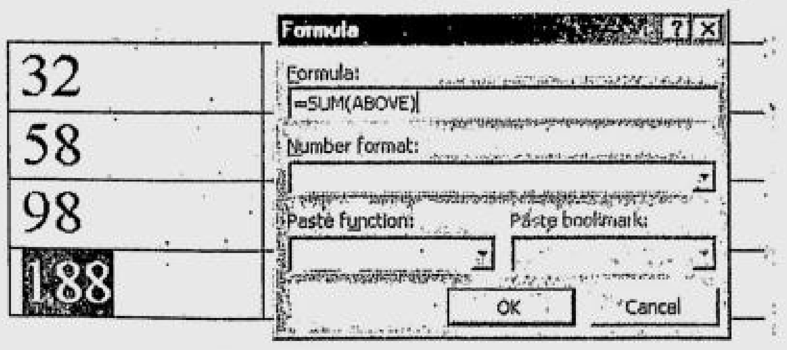
The King of Prussia, Pennsylvania-based company, which typically handles about 3,500 corporate clients a day, has seen a 30 percent to 40 percent increase in traffic since the attack. VSPAN expects the surging demand will require it to almost double its business in the near term.

"When President Bush left Florida and went to the Midwest and videoconferenced with his advisors—those are the kinds of things that cause people to realize that videoconferencing, for price, convenience or security reasons, is a viable option," Hayward said.

Analysts said the videoconferencing industry also saw a jump in demand immediately after the crashes of Pan Am Flight 103 and TWA Flight 800, and during the Gulf War. But the cost of videoconferencing has fallen sharply since then, and analysts said the recent surge in business could last as this week's disasters and the aftermath cool international travel. *Reuters*

Creating formulas in tables

By Jerry Liao


32
58
98
188

Formula:
=SUM(ABOVE)
Number format:
Paste function:
Paste bookmark:

FOR simple calculations, Microsoft Word comes with a built-in formula function for your tables. Here's how you can access them:

(1) Create or insert a new table (Table/Draw Table)

(2) Select the number of rows and columns

(3) Type the numeric values of the desired columns

(4) Position cursor where you want your result to appear (Bottom Cell)

(5) Go to Table/Formula (Formula dialog box will be displayed)

(6) Select the desired number format from the drop-down list

(7) Select the desired formula under the "Paste" function drop-down list.

Use "Above," "Left," "Right," "Down" inside the parenthesis

The default formula under the formula box is sum, delete it first before using a different formula.

For more tips, visit our website at www.brainshare.com.ph. To join the Powertips Group, send your name, address, age, profession and company name to infochat @mozcom.com.

Microsoft to remove twin towers in game

SEATTLE—Software giant Microsoft Corp. said on Friday it would remove the World Trade Center from the New York landscape in its upcoming Flight Simulator game after the twin towers were destroyed last week.

Flight Simulator 2002, the latest version of one of Microsoft's most popular games, will let players fly a variety of airplanes—including commercial jets like a Boeing 747—around areas like New York City, Las Vegas and Seattle.

Other video game makers have said they are evaluating some titles that contain violence in a New York setting or that play off themes of fright and paranoia. Movie studios are also reviewing upcoming films with World Trade Center footage. *Reuters*

Technology . . .

(From page D7)

tem that winnows out better-known passengers. Experts say that probably means allowing frequent flyers to pass, for instance, although the FAA declined to give details.

New X-ray machines for carry-on luggage also will be phased in over the next year, in which software will randomly generate images of fake weapons to keep security staff who watch machines on their toes, the FAA said.

"To stay in business they are going to have to screeners got that meet our standards," FAA spokesperson Rebecca Trexler said.

The new machines will tell workers when they've caught fakes without requiring packages to be opened and allow the FAA to monitor how contract security firms are performing. The agency is seeking other ways to improve security as well, Trexler said.

The augmented X-ray machine addresses a main concern—the low level of training for many airport workers.

"They can either work for McDonald's or be screeners," said Bob Monetti, an air security advocate whose son died on Pan Am flight 103, which exploded in December 1998 over Lockerbie, Scotland. Monetti has since become a member of the FAA's Aviation Security Advisory Committee.

Screeners face a tougher task now that the FAA has banned knives in the aftermath of the World Trade Center attacks.

"Everybody carries a little pocket knife," Monetti said. "To say we will not allow anybody to carry one is somewhere between really silly and unenforceable."

A solution would be to check the people in addition to what they are carrying, said Monetti and Francois Mesqui, chief technology officer of InVision.

"If it is true that you could hijack a plane with a small knife, there must be another security feature that we are using to make sure that passengers going on a plane (are) offering a certain guarantee, by themselves, that they are not dangerous people," he said.

Evening the odds

Casinos have already found a way to even the odds in their business. More than 100 casinos—and two European airports—have bought face recognition systems from Littleton, Massachusetts-based Viisage Technology Inc..

"We use it to filter players and suspicious people," said Derk Boss, who uses the system to find card counters and cheats at the Stratosphere casino in Las Vegas. He expected it would catch terrorists, if the computer had a good database to use.

"People use different colored glasses and mustaches and things like that. They'll grow a beard. And it certainly worked on that," he said.

A major airport could outfit itself with cameras and computer systems at all the gates for hundreds of thousands of dollars, said Tom Colatosi, Viisage president and CEO.

His software takes 128 readings of each face and compares the result to a database.

That would mean searching for individuals, rather than using computers to find unknowns, which some civil libertarians object to as intrusive. But Colatosi said those concerns have faded since the World Trade Center bombing.

"I see the airports here in Boston are saying no more curbside check-in, you can't drive within 300 feet of the door, and all those types of things" he said. "They are all going to increase the inconvenience for the traveling public, and none of them would have prevented the hijacking at Logan." *Reuters*

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Technology could stop future hijackers, suicide aircraft

SAN FRANCISCO—The next time a terrorist aims a jet at a building, maybe the plane should say no.

From computers that could steer airliners away from skyscrapers to face-recognition devices already used to spot card counters in casinos, technology could provide ways to make the skies safer but at a cost, experts said.

Current technology, which focuses on weapons searches, was bested by terrorists armed with knives and box cutters who crashed hijacked planes into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon this week. To prevent this, new security systems could be buttressed with devices that look for terrorists before boarding and ones that keep the plane safe, experts said.

Autopilots could be linked to terrain warning systems, which the Federal Aviation Administration already requires in new US aircraft, that show pilots what is below and recognize major landmark buildings, for instance.

"It's only a small step to take that, link it into the flight control system, and voila, you have something that you can stop things flying into buildings," said Ian Sheppard, of British airline consultant Air Claims.

But putting that technological fix into service would require extensive testing and raise questions about taking control from pilots, said Ron Crotty, a spokesperson for Honeywell International Inc., which makes the terrain systems.

"Technically it is possible," he said. But it would take expensive certification as well as modification of the systems, which sell for around $70,000.

"Every time you take control of the plane away from the pilot, it is a major problem," Crotty said.

FAA spokesperson Les Dorr said his agency took a different approach: "We really don't think that that sort of technology would be the solution to the hijacking issue. Where technology can be brought to bear is keeping those kinds of individuals and any weapons off the aircraft."

The FAA is already rolling out new technology, including million-dollar, three-dimensional scanners that probe checked baggage for bombs, comparing the density of items inside to those of explosives. The scanners are made by InVision Technologies Inc., a security device maker based in Newark, California.

Airports single out suitcases for scrutiny with an FAA computer sys-

TECHNOLOGY/ p.D6

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Smart . . .

(From page D5)

Tagum, Davao del Norte that handled transmission of voice and data traffic leading to problems in Smart's network. Smart uses fiber optic lines, aside from microwave, to transmit GSM voice and data traffic between subscribers through its network, said Ramon Isberto, head of Smart public affairs.

Industry sources said that Smart was using its microwave connections as backup after last week's mishap. Initial reports received by Smart indicated that the DPWH allegedly hit Smart's transmission lines on Wednesday in San Fernando, thereby damaging a 280-meter stretch of fiber optic cable. On Thursday, DPWH-led diggings also damaged another transmission line of the operator in Tagum.

The damages reportedly led to the "degradation" of Smart' s services last week. Thus subscribers have reportedly experienced difficulties in reloading credits into their pre-paid accounts, sending text messages and in making voice calls.

Motorola . . .

(From page D5)

- Extending the life of silicon and existing capital investments
- Improving cost effectiveness for higher performance-applications such as optical communications

"This is a tremendous achievement by our scientists and one that has the potential, when fully commercialized, to transform the industry in a way that is similar to the transition from discrete semiconductors to integrated circuits," said Dennis Roberson, senior vice president and chief technology officer, Motorola Inc.

"Motorola's announcement that they have successfully made GaAs transistors in a thin layer of GaAs grown on a silicon wafer could go down in history as a major turning point for the semiconductor industry," said Steve Cullen, director and principal analyst, Semiconductor Research, Cahners In-Stat Group.

The idea was originally developed by Motorola Labs' scientist, Dr. Jamal Ramdani. Developing and proving the exact recipe and process grew out of work done by a broad team of scientists and engineers. Motorola Labs is now working on developing the optimum intermediate layer for indium phosphide and other materials.

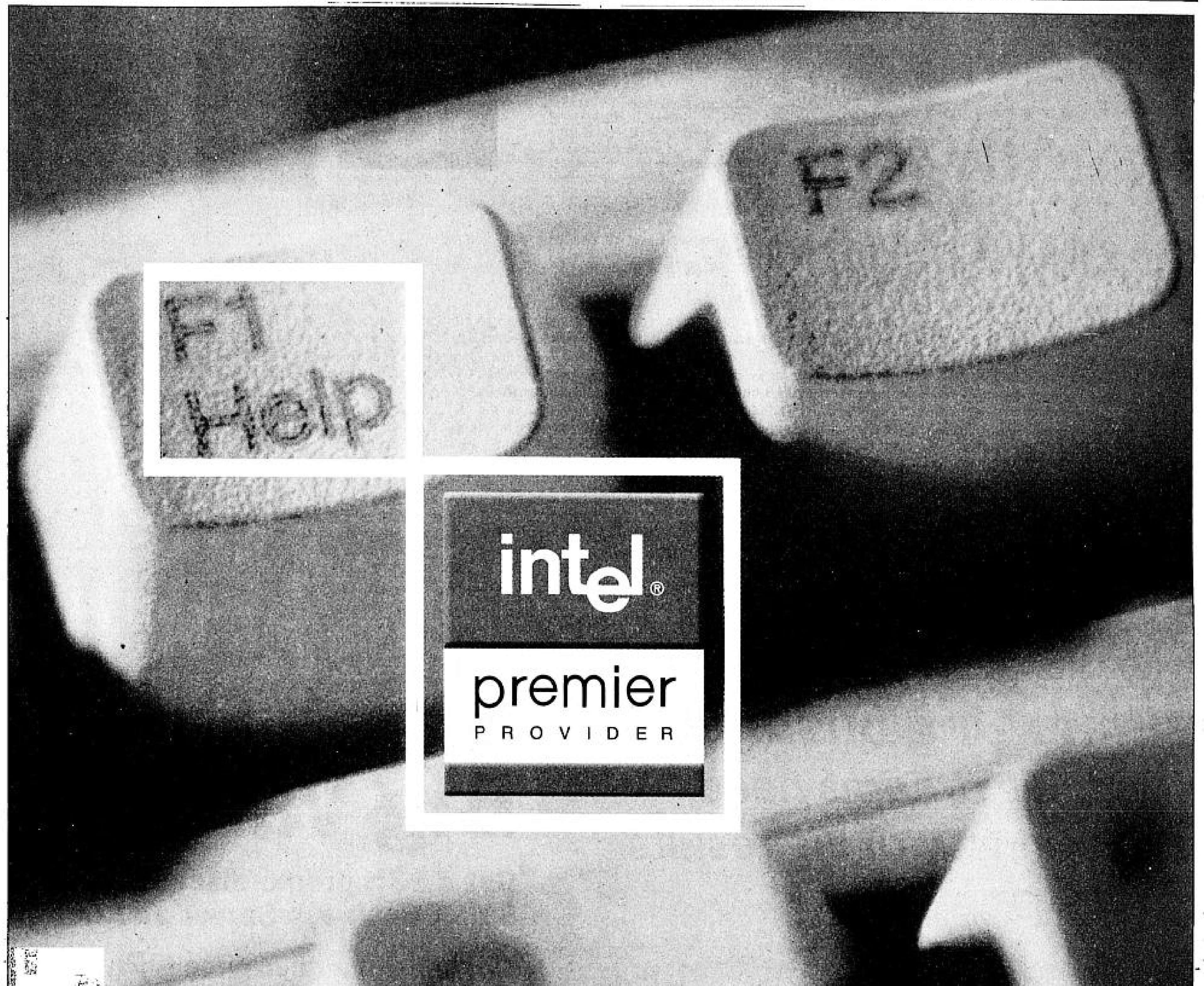
Motorola Labs created the world's first 8" GaAs on silicon wafer and worked with epitaxial wafer manufacturer IQE to create the world's first 12-inch GaAs on silicon wafers and a variety of other wafer sizes. Motorola then made working power amplifiers from GaAs on silicon wafers and successfully completed numerous wireless calls using those devices in several phones over the past few months. In addition, a light-emitting device was created to demonstrate the optical characteristics.

"GaAs on silicon is just the first step and has created a baseline technology for extending our research to other materials systems," said Dr. Jim Prendergast, vice president and director, Motorola Labs, Physical Sciences Research Lab. "One of our next goals is to complete the task of growing indium phosphide on silicon. This technology should support chip clock speeds of more than 70GHz and long wavelength lasers that are critical to fiber-optic communications."

Until now, the industry has been dependent on costly gallium arsenide and indium phosphide wafers for optical and high performance applications. Because of their brittle nature, no one has previously been able to create commercial GaAs wafers larger than six inches or InP wafers larger than four inches. Scientists have also been unable to combine light-emitting semiconductors with silicon integrated circuits on a single chip.

"More than 90 percent of the existing fiber optic cable is still unused and underutilized," said Bob Merritt, vice president, Semico Research Corporation. "This technology could be the switch that eventually turf turns on those communications channels."

Motorola has filed more than 270 patents on inventions related to this new technology and the company intends to broadly license the technology. Padmasree Warrior, a Motorola corporate vice president has been selected to lead the commercialization effort. Warrior has worked in all aspects of the semiconductor segment, including device technology, research and development, process engineering, manufacturing and pilot line operations.



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Anti-Arab sentiment growing on Internet after WTC attack

GROWING anti-Muslim sentiment and calls for revenge swept Arab chat rooms last week, as probes into the devastating terrorist attacks in the United States pointed increasingly to involvement by a dissident Saudi Islamic militant leader.

"I am not a racist at all (but) look around the world: wherever there are Islamic people there is death by terror. They are barbarians from the dark ages," said one message posted on the popular Arabia.com website.

The writer, who identified himself as "diversity," said it was high time the United States stopped giving haven to the "poor and down trodden" the world over.

"To be repaid, and mostly by Muslim people, by being spit on in the face has me thinking that Islam is no good," the message said.

"I believe it is time to change the US thought and be more restrictive and less free about who we allow to live and practice their freedoms here," it said.

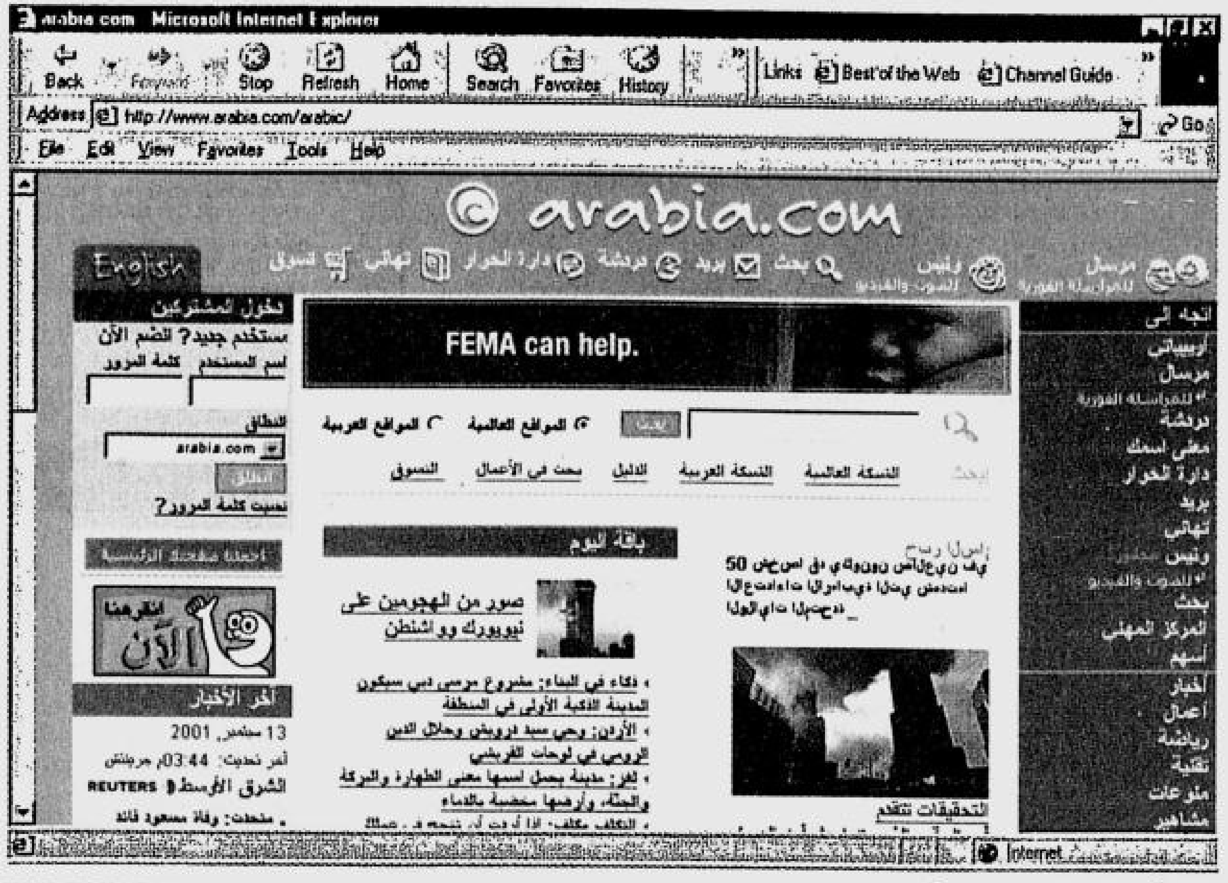
Much of the passion that is being expressed in cyberworld appears to have been fueled by television pictures showing groups of Palestinians in the West Bank and south Lebanon rejoicing after the devastating attacks on Spet. 11.

"How can people celebrate the killing of innocents," said one message.

"I am not a Muslim, nor would I want ever to be. They seem to be a hateful, crazy lot bent on destroying all other people they do not agree with," the writer said.

Someone else stressed that the Palestinians who are locked in a deadly uprising against Israeli rule for almost a year should clearly understand that "celebrating will not help them win against Israel."

Some writers stressed that the attacks were the direct result of the United States turning a blind eye to the bloodshed in the Middle East.



THE POPULAR www.arabia.com website bears witness to the public outrage

"Seeing how the United States of America turned away blindly during 53 years of genocide (Arab-Israeli conflict), I can see how they (Palestinians) would be celebrating our demise."

But writer "usaarmyranger" said the United States should disengage from the Middle East conflict, leaving Palestinians and Israelis to fight it out until Israel "eventually wipes Arabs from the earth or maybe they would destroy each other."

Investigators from Washington to Paris, Rome and other European cities, meanwhile, toiled to find out who was behind the kamikaze attacks. The main suspect thought to be behind the terrorist who hijacked four airliners, crashing three of them into the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon, is the network of Islamists led by exiled Saudi multi-millionaire Osama bin Laden. These findings are prompting Arabs across the world to scramble to dispel fears that their community will be the target of a vicious and unjustified backlash.

"What is happening in the Islamic world does not have anything to do with the core of Islam," another post said.

Another offered words of advice to Muslims and other ethnic groups in the United States: "I advise you to be careful in your day-to-day life, especially females with (Islamic) scarves because people are not always rational in these circumstances."

One US respondent acknowledged that Arabs and Muslims should not be put in the same basket as international terrorism.

"I know that all Arabians and Muslims are not evil and full of hatred. Many Americans know that. Yet it is very hard for the world to hear your plight when something like this happens," the message said.

Other US nationals warned of America's response to the carnage.

"I used to be sympathetic to the people of the Middle East and their struggles. Not anymore," one said. "You want a war, you got it, and I will be the first one clapping and cheering when we start spanking you guys."

AFP

Globe to revive Islacom with 'Touch Mobile'

BY ERWIN LEMUEL OLIVA

MOBILE phone operator Globe Telecom Inc. has introduced a new brand and service aimed at revitalizing the business of its fully owned subsidiary Isla Communications Inc. (Islacom), which Globe merged with early this year.

With capital infusion amounting to $220 million from Singapore Telecoms, Deutsche Telekom and Ayala Corp. also early this year, Globe officials said that the new Islacom brand and service called "Touch Mobile" hopes to set apart the company from competitors Smart and Piltel, which now controls more than 50 percent of the mobile industry in the Philippines.

"We want to have separate images for certain brands," Gerry Ablaza, president and chief executive officer of Globe and Islacom, said when asked how Globe intends to position Touch Mobile in the local market.

Gil Genio, Globe senior vice president and chief operating officer for Islacom, for his part, admitted that "everybody (is) screaming for attention" in the local mobile industry where there is cutthroat competition.

He said that Touch Mobile is a low-priced, pre-paid service that offers unique value-added services such as voice messaging—the first in the Philippines and second in the world—and voice info, a voice-guided technology that provides information, news and games, among others.

Anna Singson, Globe assistant vice president for marketing, added that Touch Mobile occupies a niche market in the local mobile industry, which is not addressed by competitors.

"Touch Mobile is for people who are adversed or uncomfortable with inconveniences of text messaging. But it also caters to the whole range of users from class A to E," she added.

Touch Mobile is described as "the latest cellular offering of Islacommunications, in cooperation with Globe Telecom, backed up by Ayala Corp., Singapore Telecom Intl., and Deutsche Telekom."

It comes with its own subscriber identification module (SIM) card with P300 or P500 credits—or a small smart card which stores unique subscriber and user information—and 120 "free" text messages a month.

Touch Mobile will also offer flat rates (P6.50 per minute) for calls between Touch Mobile subscribers to another mobile phone subscriber, and to local landline, according to Globe officials.

It also carries a wide array of features such as text messaging, caller ID, call waiting, forwarding, barring, voice mail, and other basic services.

Touch mobile, however, offers voice messaging and voice info—two value-added services not available from competition.

Voice messaging—like text messaging—allows subscribers to send messages to other subscribers. These are, however, not short text messages but recorded voice messages or even pre-recorded soundbites, Singson explained. A voice recording guides every to subscriber on steps to take to send a voice message.

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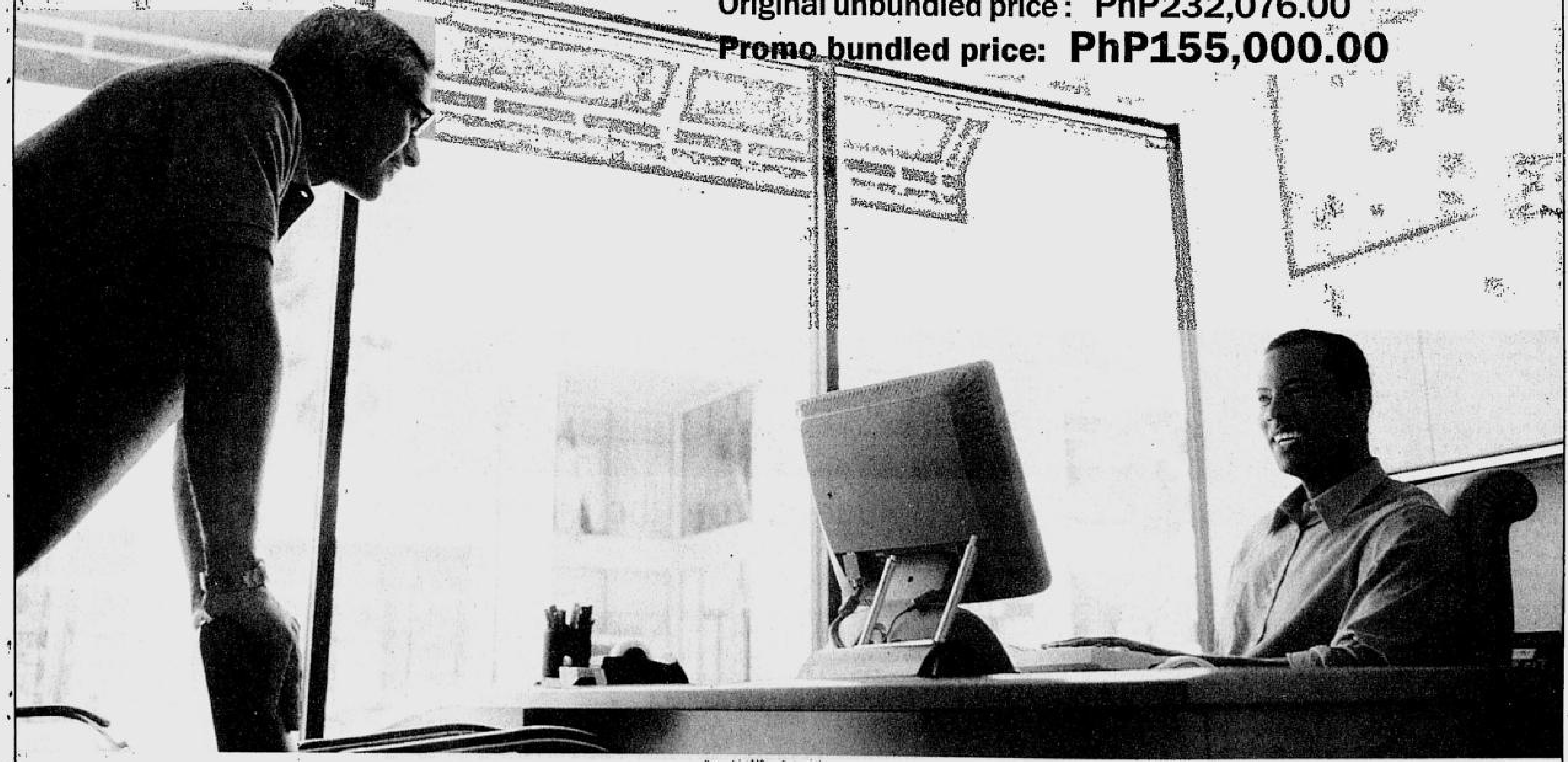

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CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor ◻ LITO B. ZULUETA, Subsection Editor

MEZZO soprano Yang Jie dominates opera.

BARITONE Mario di Marco scores as villain.

SOPRANO Rachelle Gerodias and tenor Lemuel de la Cruz give distinguished performances that would make Filipinos proud.

Verdi makes a successful comeback at CCP

BY PABLO A. TARIMAN

A NEW version of Verdi's "Il Trovatore"—with the original setting transported from the castles of Spain to San Agustin Church and Fort Santiago in Intramuros—made a dramatic comeback in Manila Friday night with the opera's villains (the Azucena of Chinese mezzo Yang Jie and the Count di Luna of Irish baritone Mario di Marco) getting more resounding applause than the opera's hero and heroine (the Manrico of Romanian tenor Stefano Costa and the Leonora of soprano Christina Lamberti).

Yang Jie proved equal to the demands of Verdi vocally and dramatically in her Act II aria, "Stride la vampa (Flames soaring upward)." The voice is of excellent Verdi quality as it rose above the orchestra with chilling effect. She literally dominated the entire opera with her grand, highly focused mezzo sound along with Mario di Marco who also scored in the Act II aria, "Il balen del suo sorriso" (roughly translated as "Tempest of the Heart").

Both singers moved on stage with artistic precision and their musicality was astounding. They enjoyed their parts to the hilt and it showed.

Lamberti was a com-

VERDI/ p.E2

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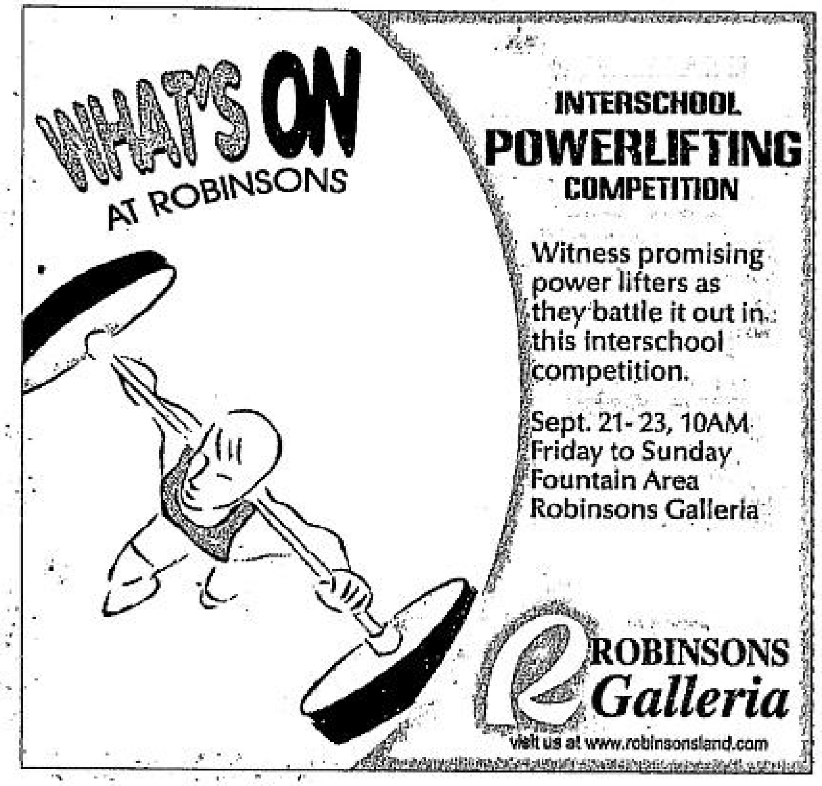
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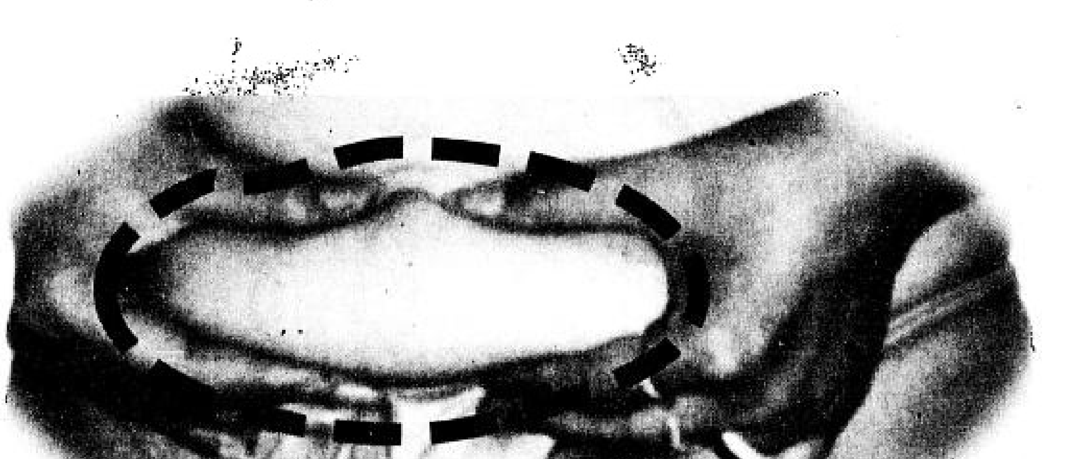
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JOSE MA. HERNANDEZ BIO LAUNCHED

The autobiography of the late scholar, writer and educator Dr. Jose Ma. Hernandez, titled "And the Day But One," was launched recently at the Victoria School Foundation, which he founded, during the induction of officers of the Rotary Club of Kamuning South. Above are Hernandez's daughters, Alice H. Reyes and Lenie H. Debuque, Rotary District governor Danny Reyes, assistant district governor Toto Sarabia and Rotarian sister Annie Abion.

Verdi makes a successful . . .

(From page E1)

petent Leonora in the singing and acting department but her Act I opening aria, "Tacea la notte placida (Peaceful was the night)" was so bereft of poetic touch even if the notes were secure and in place. This was probably her first crack at the part and she will no doubt improve immensely in succeeding performances. It is fair to say that her Act IV aria, "D'amor sull'ali rosee (Love fly on rosy wings)." was more moving and she looked more comfortable in the part.

Also commendable was the Fernando of Mario Bertolino who sang his part with vocal zing. The Inez of Rachelle Gerodias and the Ruiz of Lemuel de la Cruz were so distinguished you wished they had more parts.

An obvious disappointment was the Manrico of Stefano Costa who had the looks but didn't have the presence (vocal and otherwise) to make the part compelling. His Act II aria, "Mal reggendo all' aspro assalto (At my mercy lay the foe)" revealed a lackluster tenor. Indeed he sounded more tragic than determined and triumphant in the crucial Act III aria, "Di quella pira (Tremble ye tyrants)." His voice had probably seen better days and in the curtain call where he was the last to be acknowledged, the applause was painfully polite.

NEGROS Oriental Gov. George Arnaiz congratulates British conductor Adrian Brown after the successful engagement of the Peace Philarmonic at the Lambert Macias Cultural Center in Dumaguete City.

The set of Salvador Bernal allowed for smooth scene transitions with ease (I know he could do better with a more reasonable budget) and the direction of Leouw Siak Fah was adequate. The Philippine Philharmonic under Ruggero Barbieri managed to prove equal to the dramatic demands of Verdi's music. It proved it could do justice to the requirements of Verdi singers.

But this business of changing settings to update a masterpiece should stop. A European garbed in a *katipunero* attire is ridiculous and Trovatore is not a Filipino opera (many opera first-timers thought "Trovatore" has honest-to-goodness Philippine setting). A great part of Filipino opera audiences today have not seen the original staging and they are entitled to watching them before the opera is revived in its adulterated version.

After the "Rigoletto" in the late '80s, the "Traviata" in the early '90s and this "Trovatore" of the year 2001, the celebration of the centenary of Verdi's death is now complete. The last two productions ("Rigoletto" and "Trovatore") were courtesy of the Opera Guild of the Philippines under Imelda Cojuangco and the latest is also by the Guild in cooperation with the Lyric Opera of Singapore.

So when do we get to watch a Manila revival of Donizetti's "Lucia di Lammermoor"? Or how about a first "Otello" in Manila with Otoniel Gonzaga or a "Eugene Onegin" with Andion Fernandez and Jonathan Zaens?

Our first-rate opera talents are just around waiting to be tapped.

* * *

After failing to make it to the Cebu concert, British conductor Adrian Brown made it to the Dumaguete City engagement of the Peace Philharmonic Philippines.

(Hearing the orchestra at the Luce Auditorium at the Silliman University campus, it occurred to me that this kind of theater—ideal for recital and symphonic concerts including ballet and opera—is what Cebu City needs.)

Transported to a real concert hall with a British conductor who has recovered from indisposition, the Peace Philharmonic showed its mettle with amazing results.

Elgar's E Minor Cello Concerto was finally performed in its entirety and its soloist, Renato Lucas, laid bare the poignant beauty of this piece.

The adagio and moderato opening throbbed with soulful air and you could hear a pin drop in the third adagio.

Both Lucas and Brown did their parts so well that for once, people got to appreciate this concerto for its immeasurable value in the concert repertory.

Lucas had the technique and the artistic clout to make the piece more than a show of melancholy; Brown, in fact, tried to infuse the piece with more élan than emotion. Performing this piece with the best he could with the orchestra and its soloist was probably his tribute to his teacher, Sir Adrian Boult, who was close to Elgar.

And Elgar's Variations on an Original Theme, ("Enigma") Op. 36 was given a more electrifying reading when it played at the Lamberto Macias Sports and Cultural Center where Negros Oriental Gov. George Arnaiz became an instant convert of classical music. "I am not much of a classical music aficionado," he told the INQUIRER, "but listening to this orchestra perform live after the heavy rain, I would say that I appreciate classical music better now."

The successful Dumaguete concerts were coordinated by provincial board member Mariant Villegas who has been designated chair of the provincial cultural committee.

'Vagina Monologues' in Filipino extended

THE FILIPINO version of the New Voice Company's production of "The Vagina Monologues" is extended until Sept. 21 and 22. The production of Eve Ensler's worldwide hit stars Arlene Borja, Pinky Marquez and Harlene Bautista-Sarmenta under the direction of Rita Asilo. The English version will have a special weekend series next month under a new cast.

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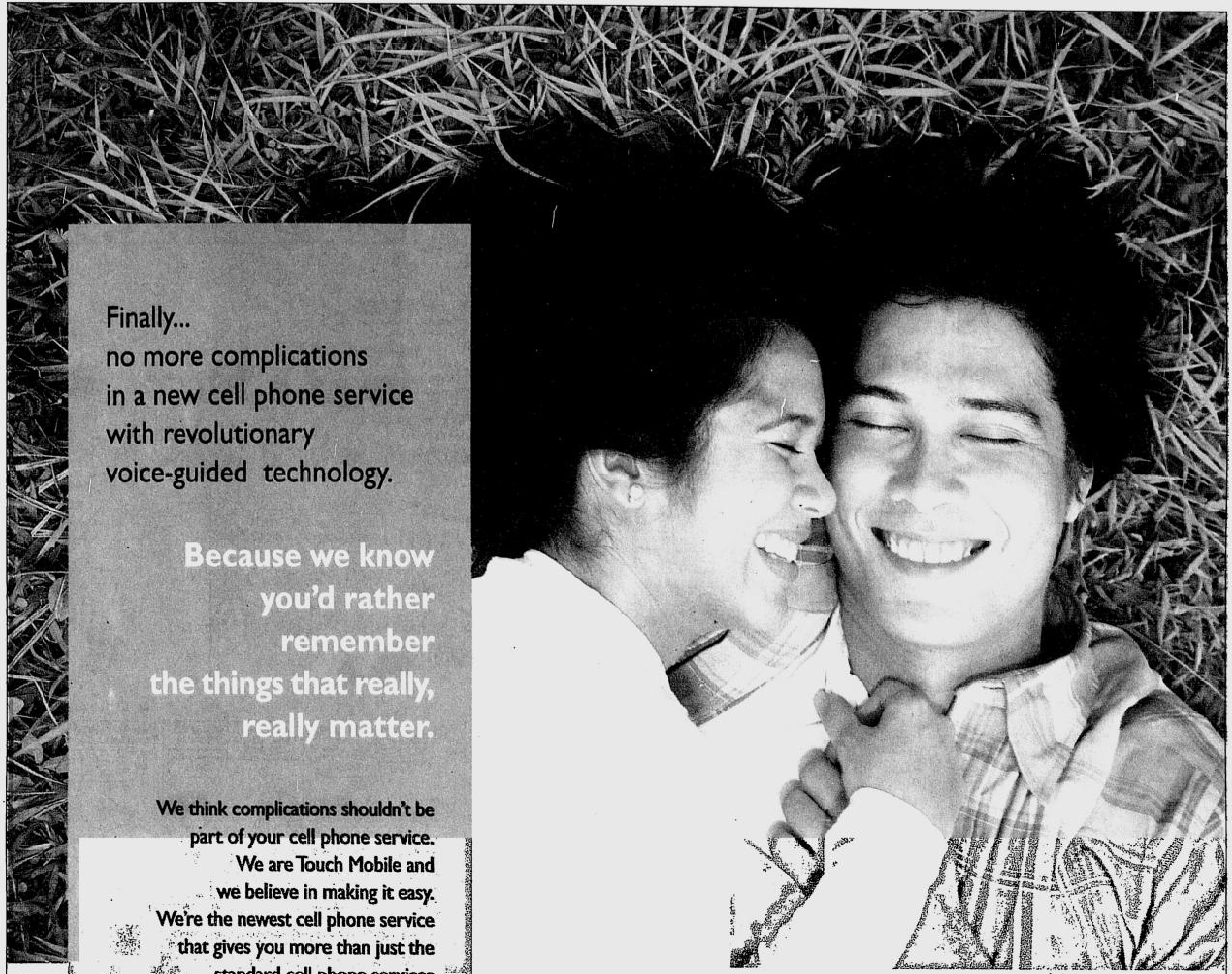

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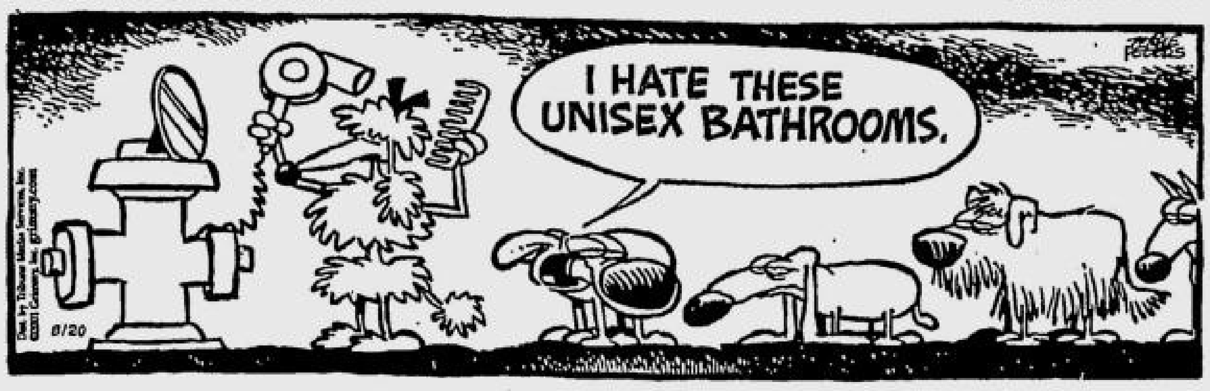
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS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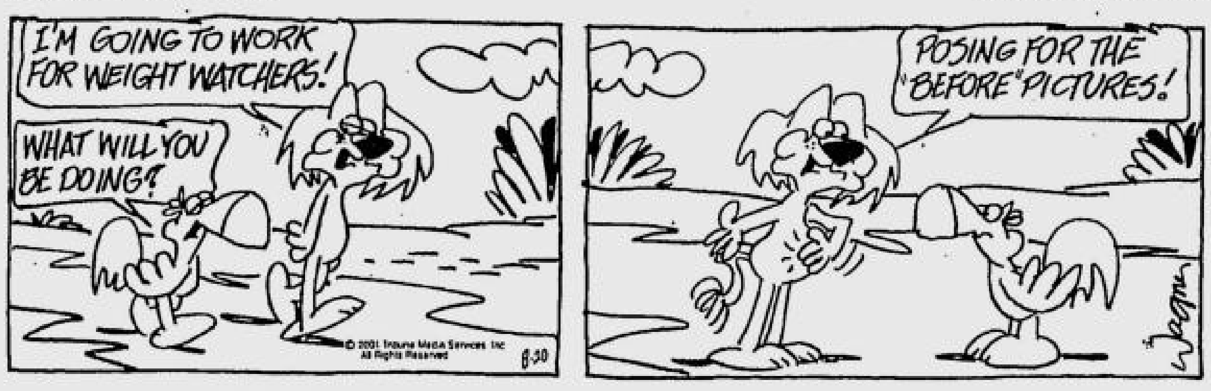
BY FRED WAGNER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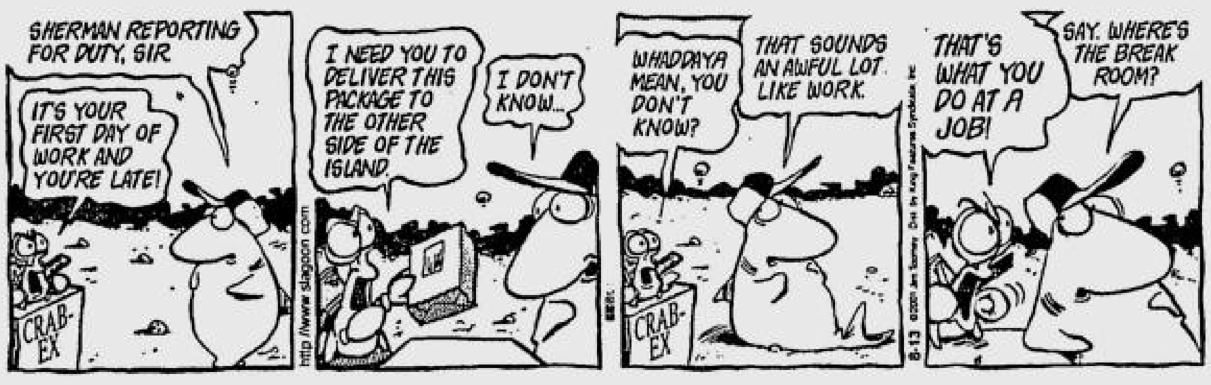
BY JIM TOOMEY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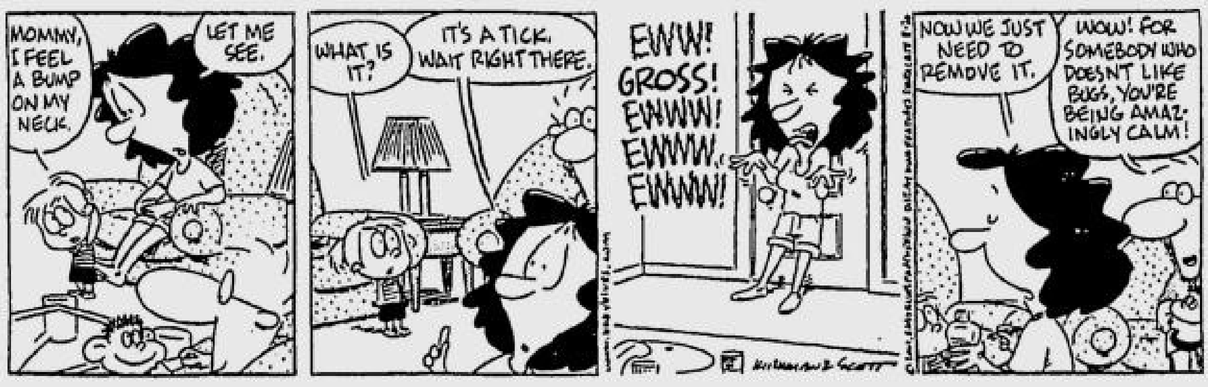
SAY. WHERE'S THE BREAK ROOM?
8-13

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT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LET ME SEE.
WHAT IS IT?
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EWW! GROSS! EWWW! EWWW. EWWW!
NOW WE JUST NEED TO REMOVE IT.
WOW! FOR SOMEBODY WHO DOESN'T LIKE BUGS, YOU'RE BEING AMAZINGLY CALM!
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Anne Bancroft, John Ritter, David Souter, Ken Kesey, Rita Rudner

Happy Birthday: You've become more disciplined, which will help you attain your goals as long as other people or projects don't lure you in a different direction. Take the time to make decisions based on fact and research. Don't even entertain the thought that someone may be better at mastering details or completing projects. Believe in your abilities. Your numbers: 5, 12, 17, 22, 28, 32

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You are more likely to complete tasks if you don't make too many promises to others. Stick to what you do best, and you will eventually earn that advancement you desire.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): It's time to do a personal make-over. The changes will elicit favorable responses and lift your spirits. This is just what you need to start moving in a positive direction.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be careful not to say anything you'll regret later. You will be far more popular if you go about your business the right way and let your quick, intelligent, humorous personality shine through.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put those creative ideas to good use by sharing them with others. Consider volunteer work. Helping children will be rewarding and challenging.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your strength lies in an ability to bluff your way past just about anyone. To make your mark in your chosen field, become involved in projects that will bring some glory.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may be analytical and moody today, but that shouldn't hinder your chances of getting ahead. Concentrate on your strengths to make some worthwhile gains.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will have plenty of interesting ideas to share with others today. Make some alterations at home that will lift your spirits and move your personal life in a positive direction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): If you propose your ideas openly, you'll be surprised how many people will follow your lead. Your dedication and devotion will catapult you into a position of leadership.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Follow the spirit within. If you let others get to you, it will be hard to make the right choices. Gullibility could lead you astray. If someone wants you to lend or donate cash, be prepared to say no.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Cultural activities will be entertaining, you will be intrigued by the logic and new methods of many foreigners. You are in a high cycle for love, romance and partnership.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make changes to your home that will please the whole family. You can make money by putting savings into conservative investments. Be smart and prosper.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will be emotional today, so keep busy with activities that you enjoy. The more time you spend thinking about what is bothering you, the greater the melancholy.

Birthday Baby: You know how to get whatever you want. You are a hard worker, willing to do what's necessary to get ahead. You can be indecisive at times, but that's only because you create so many choices for yourself.

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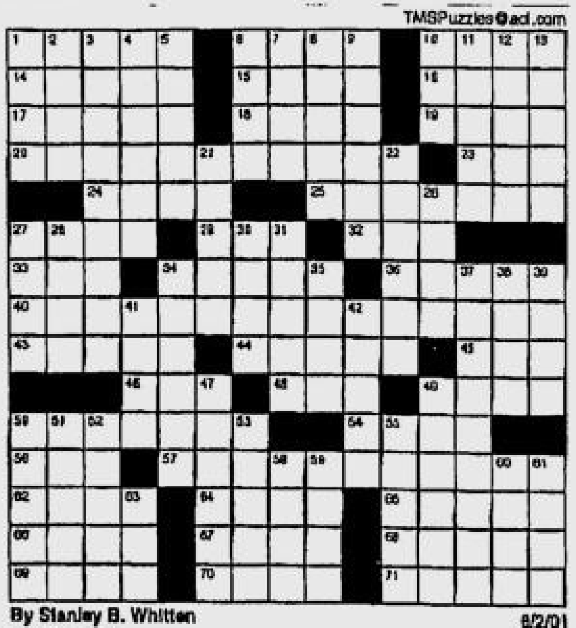
1 Gang follower?
2 Cocoyam
3 Capable of winning at the polls
4 Bully
5 Woodland creature of myth
6 Greek cheese
7 Sacred image
8 No-man's land
9 Subatomic particles
10 Candidate to like?
11 Flying elephant
12 Iron clothes?
13 Part of a process
21 Very short
22 Evaluate
26 Warmth
27 Spreads seeds
28 Court order
30 Mineo and Maglie
31 Shoot from hiding
34 Form into a wad
35 Close-fitting
37 Voiced consonants
38 Slaughter of baseball
39 Late night Jay
41 Nasty
42 Figure of speech
47 Strip blubber
49 Brown shade
50 Greek heroes?
51 Elevate
52 Tell's target
53 Black
55 Nautical position
58 French cheese
59 Runners' measures
60 It is French?
61 'Airplane' star
63 Turf piece



By Stanley B. Whitten
Highwood, IL
8/2/01

SATURDAY PUZZLE ANSWER

C	A	P	R	I		S	O	U	P		A	N	N	E
A	S	I	A	N		A	R	G	O		N	E	E	D
W	I	S	H	F	U	L	T	H	I	N	K	I	N	G
S	S	A		E	N	O	S		G	A	L	L	E	Y
			G	R	I	N		S	N	E	E			
A	D	V	E	N	T		S	P	A	S		M	A	D
L	I	A	N	A		O	L	I	N		S	E	L	A
C	A	S	T	L	E	S	I	N	T	H	E	A	I	R
O	L	E	S		N	I	C	E		A	L	D	E	N
A	S	S		I	D	E	E		G	R	E	E	N	S
			O	D	O	R		H	E	R	S			
B	O	O	Z	E	R		T	O	N	I		F	R	A
I	M	P	O	S	S	I	B	L	E	D	R	E	A	M
N	O	U	N		E	R	A	S		A	I	S	L	E
D	O	S	E		D	A	R	T		N	O	S	E	S

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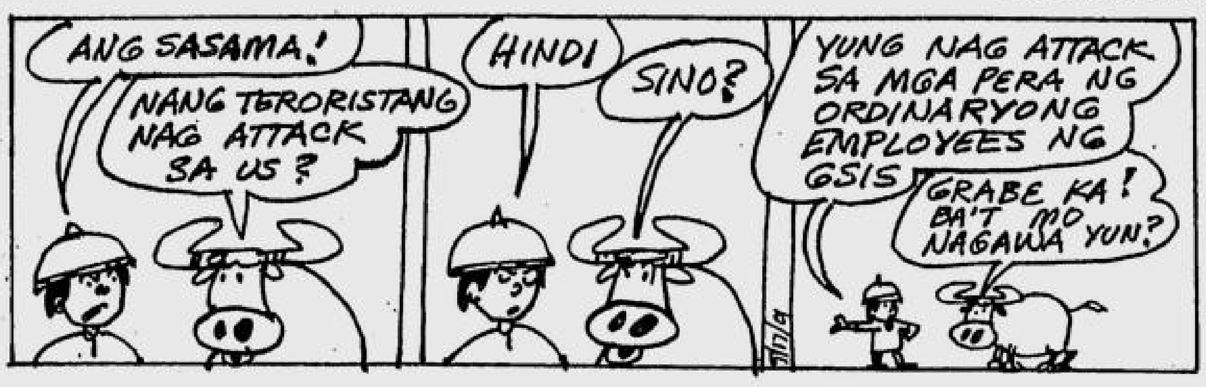
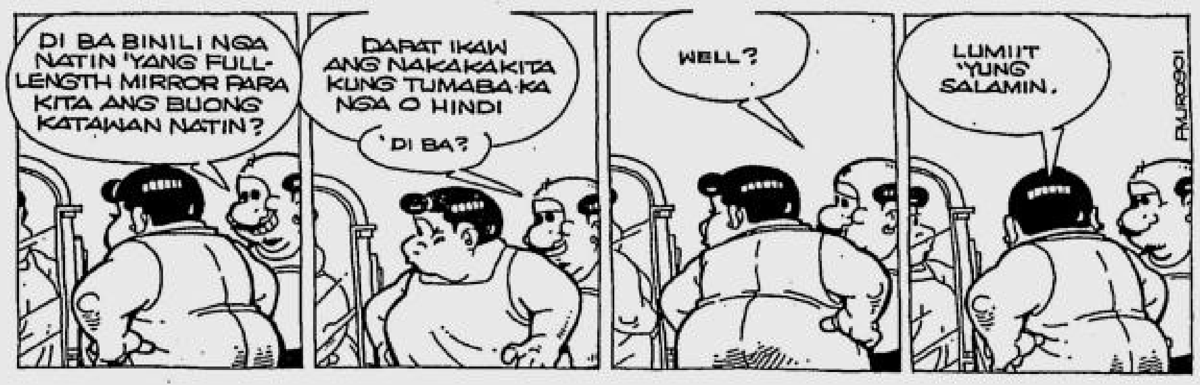
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


ANG SASAMA!
NANG TERORISTANG NAG ATTACK SA US?
HINDI
SINO?
YUNG NAG ATTACK SA MGA PERA NG ORDINARYONG EMPLOYEES NG GSIS
GRABE KA! BA'T MO NAGAWA YUN?

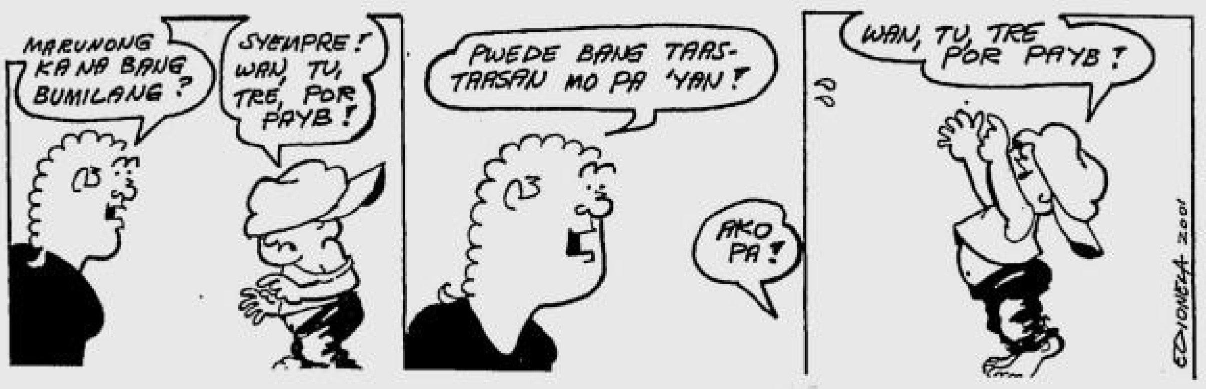
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


DI BA BINILI NGA NATIN 'YANG FULL-LENGTH MIRROR PARA KITA ANG BUONG KATAWAN NATIN?
DAPAT IKAW ANG NAKAKAKITA KUNG TUMABA KA NGA O HINDI
'DI BA?
WELL?
LUMIIT 'YUNG SALAMIN.
PMJR0901

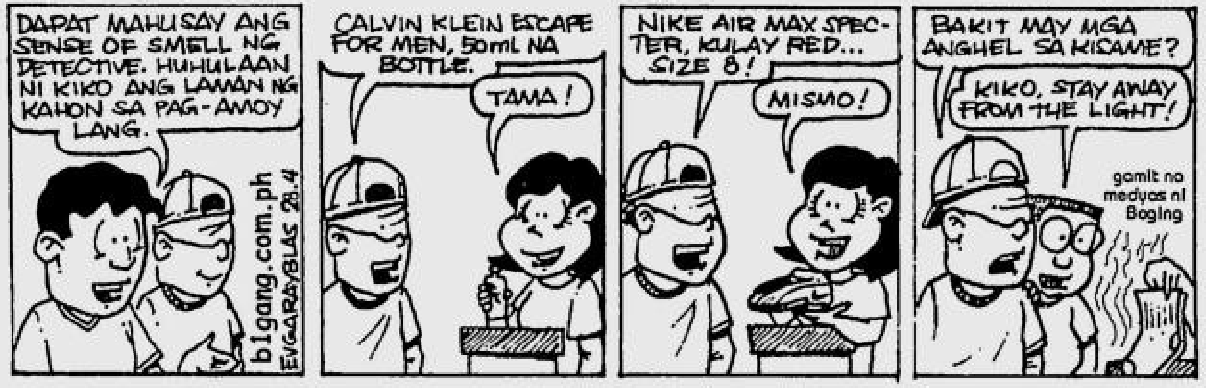
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


MARUNONG KA NA BANG BUMILANG?
SYEMPRE! WAN, TU, TRE, POR PAYB!
PWEDE BANG TAAS-TAASAN MO PA 'YAN?
AKO PA?
WAN, TU, TRE POR PAYB?
EDIONELA 2001

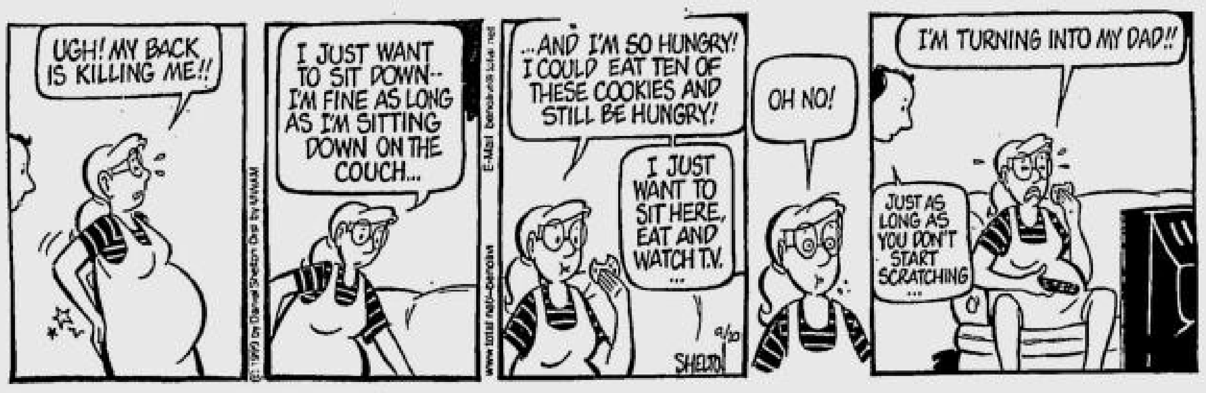
B1 GANG

BY ATS11/ JEA/ FEVG


DAPAT MAHUSAY ANG SENSE OF SMELL NG DETECTIVE. HUHULAAN NI KIKO ANG LAMAN NG KAHON SA PAG-AMOY LANG.
b1gang.com.ph
EVGARAYBLAS 28.4
CALVIN KLEIN ESCAPE FOR MEN, 50ml NA BOTTLE.
TAMA!
NIKE AIR MAX SPECTER, KULAY RED... SIZE 8!
MISMO!
BAKIT MAY MGA ANGHEL SA KISAME?
KIKO, STAY AWAY FROM THE LIGHT!
gamit na medyas ni Boging

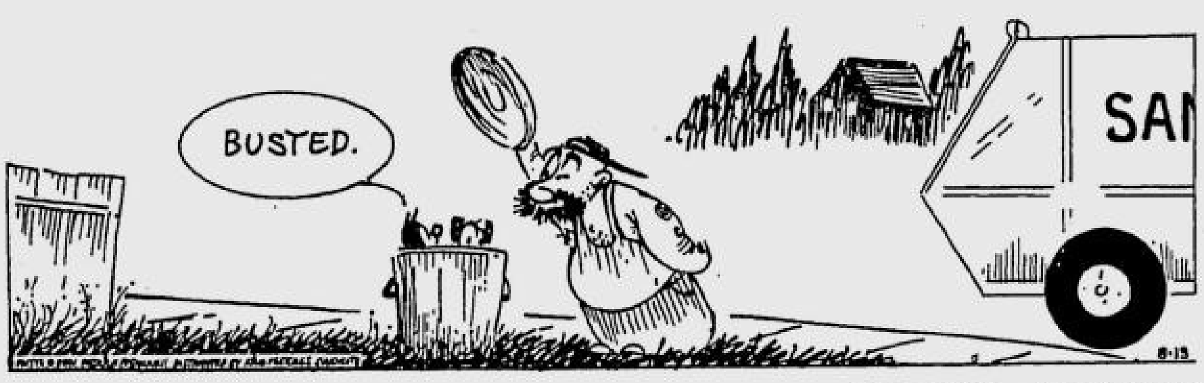
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


UGH! MY BACK IS KILLING ME!!
I JUST WANT TO SIT DOWN-- I'M FINE AS LONG AS I'M SITTING DOWN ON THE COUCH...
...AND I'M SO HUNGRY! I COULD EAT TEN OF THESE COOKIES AND STILL BE HUNGRY!
I JUST WANT TO SIT HERE, EAT AND WATCH T.V. ...
9/10
SHELTON
OH NO!
I'M TURNING INTO MY DAD!!
JUST AS LONG AS YOU DON'T START SCRATCHING ...

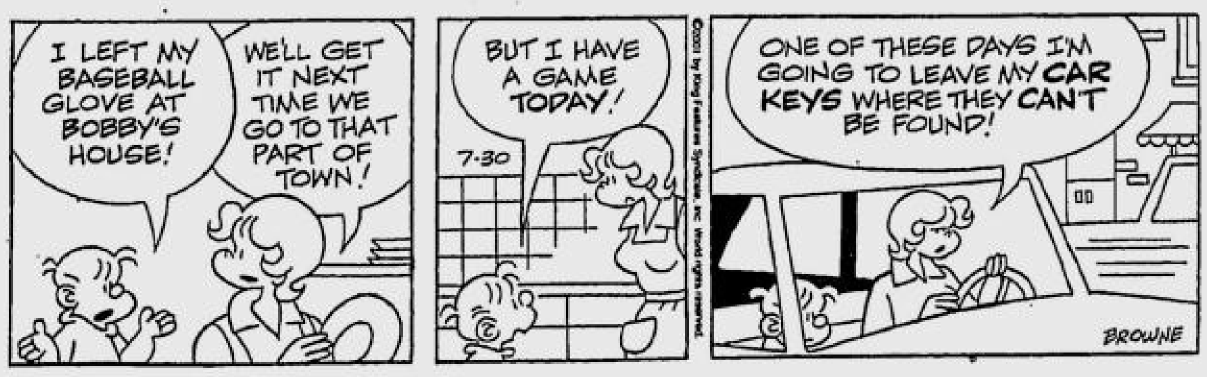
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


BUSTED.
SAN
8-15

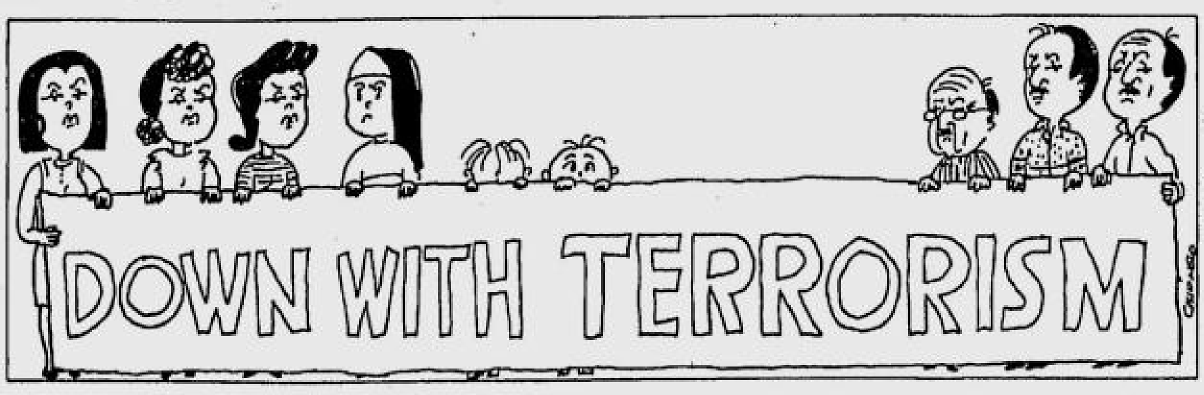
HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


I LEFT MY BASEBALL GLOVE AT BOBBY'S HOUSE!
WE'LL GET IT NEXT TIME WE GO TO THAT PART OF TOWN!
BUT I HAVE A GAME TODAY!
7-30
ONE OF THESE DAYS I'M GOING TO LEAVE MY CAR KEYS WHERE THEY CAN'T BE FOUND!
BROWNE

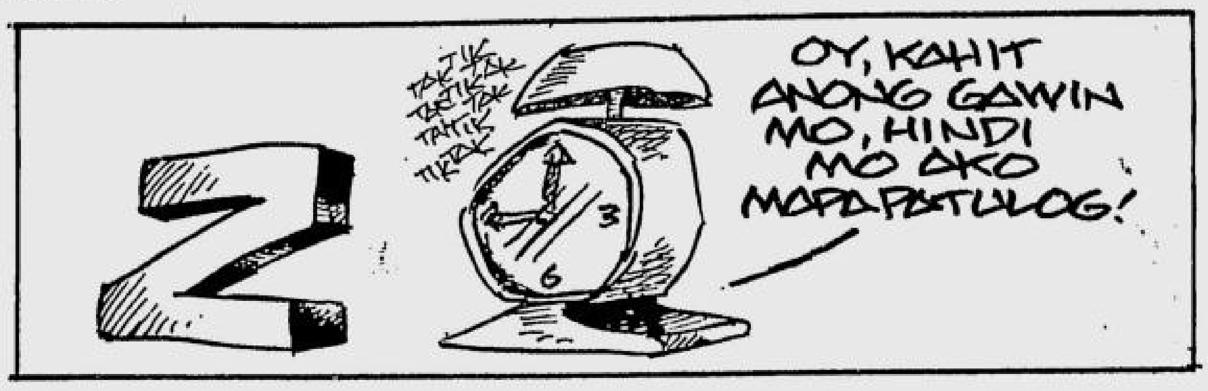
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


DOWN WITH TERRORISM

TULDOK

BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING


TIKTAK TIKTAK TIKTIK TIKTAK
3
6
OY, KAHIT ANONG GAWIN MO, HINDI MO AKO MAPAPATULOG!

BRITISH COUNCIL'S 'FUSION!'

Spontaneous combustion

By Carissa Nespral

FUSION /fju:zn/ n [C, U]—mixing or uniting different things into one. The term certainly has been used quite often in recent times by various sectors in the music industry. Hoping to come up with a more innovative view of music on a global scale, several attempts have been made to bring together genres and styles, i.e. Luciano Pavarotti in his concert series with rockers and pop stars, soprano Monserrat Caballe matching the late Freddie Mercury note for note in the Barcelona games, Al Jarreau surviving The Battle with La Kathleen, etc.

Recently, however, the British Council decided to define fusion in a cross-continental context—live, on local shores—by bringing together two of the United Kingdom's foremost instrumentalists in tandem with the Philippines' best. At first, it seemed like a mere hodge-podge born out of convenience. Even the venues selected were so disparate. But as the music wafted out to the audiences in Manila, Cebu and Bacolod, "Fusion!" was an obvious case of the classics straddling jazz, pop and Latin nuances, with ethnic strains from the Celts and Zydeco-Cajuns thrown in between.

Cellist Matthew Barley, looking very much like a cross between Antonio Banderas and Little Lord Fauntleroy, displayed the courage of a well-established classicist crossing fluently over to other genres. Already a proponent of improvisation with his group in England, his greatest achievement was having persuaded his wife Viktoria Mullova, winner of the Wienawski, Tchaikovsky and Sibelius competitions (often called the Ice Queen, being the most austere of classical violinists)—to turn her technique upside down and play jazz in a thrilling liberation of the spirit. Now, upon the prodding of the British Council, he accepted the challenge to harmonize with musical counterparts on this side of Asia, all homegrown, proudly Filipino.

Seemingly not content, the Council decided to throw in the rising star in this year's British Jazz Awards—Latin pianist Alex Wilson—just to see if the stellar ensemble could live up to their press releases and play Afro-Cuban rhythms. The swarthy but boyish-looking Wilson literally jetted in from Heathrow to the medieval setting of Kuh Ledesma's Republic of Malate, and continued to pump his adrenaline higher for the next week or so.

Pipe dream

The Filipino contingent was straight out of a pipe dream—Tots Tolentino on sax, Bo Razon on percussion, Meong Pacana on bass, Mar Dizon on drums, Boogie Abarico on trumpet, Mon David on vocals, and the dynamic duo of Toti Fuentes and Bobby Gomez on keys.

Pang-Monterey.

But why Coke Bolipata?

The question continued to nag many as Coke's only brush with these denizens of the pop world was in a one-on-one showdown with Jay Cayuca on Haydn, Beethoven and Vivaldi in an ambitious fusion showcase four years back. But there was the young Juilliard-trained violinist practically glistening in the warmth of a newfound sun as he gamely traded phrases with Barley on melody lines and pizzicato, savoring a new interactive freedom. Their novel take on music from The Doors to The Corrs, coupled with Barley's highly enjoyable improvisational duet with Mon David on a traditional Cajun tune, easily overshadowed Yo-Yo Ma's "Appalachian Journey" with Alison Krauss and banjoist Bela Fleck.

BO Razon on percussion

Vaulting spectacularly from a classical cello tribute to Johann Sebastian Bach, whom he labeled as an early proponent of fusion, Barley showed that for the musicians onstage that night, there was only one category of music—the kind they wanted to make. From an outpouring of lyrical melody and profound meditative calm, he went on to manifest passion in experimentation with his 200-year-old partner, before bursting with energy as he took off with the Pinoy All-Stars on a unique musical journey.

Sans the original lyrics of Maurice White, their initial salvo on "Fantasy" was indeed quite prophetic. Through a carefully selected repertoire arranged by Bobby Gomez to capitalize on the haunting strains of the cello, the ensemble dazzled with their individual virtuosic capabilities and radiantly sparkled with excitement and enjoyment as their minds explored and conquered old worlds while expanding into new ones.

Popular

Drawing on popular melodies from British pop icons like Sting and the Beatles, the group proved themselves equally adept at salsa. samba, mambo, cha-cha and the demanding *guaguangco* with the advent of Wilson's foray on the 88s. Jumping straight into the fray via Bo Razon's arrangement on the Ilonggo folk tune "Dandansoy," Wilson drove audience and musicians straight up with his frenetic energy. He pounded relentlessly innovative Latino beats, took the group low as he allowed his fellow musicians to define themselves in their own terms, and patiently drew on his comic side in covering up technical glitches. Synching superbly with musical director Toti Fuentes and the rag-tag but wonderfully harmonious *sonero* vocals of Gomez, Razon and David, Wilson in his element was so infectious that Barley could not help but be equally hyper on the group's rendition of Anglo-Cubano.

Percussionist Bo Razon, whose frustration at having to constantly educate concert-goers on the difference between ballroom, Latin and strictly Afro-Cuban genres had reached a hopeless pitch, finally found his match in Wilson, who evidently spoke the same musical lingo and in a highly authentic manner at that. Together, the two complemented each other rhythmically, with bassist Meong Pacana and drummer Mar Dizon anchoring the groove. Razon was a phenomenon on congas, timbales, bongos, chimes, *bata*, *guiro* and about everything else that made percussive sound providing Wilson with the novel experience of having just one man manning polyrhythms.

Tots Tolentino on alto sax and Boogie Abarico on trumpet made it sound like the group actually had a full horn section instead of just two. Abarico was even allowed to take the floor on numerous masterful solos. However, it was Tolentino's clean and clear blowing that defined jazz the way it was meant to be.

High

But what gave both Barley and Wilson their ultimate high was collaborating with vocalist Mon David, who in their book, was about the most versatile and gifted among the group. David shunned stellar status as other vocalists would be reluctant to do, and contented himself at supporting his fellow artists onstage. But in his shining moments, he proved his mettle and reflected his diverse vocal nuances—a jazzman to the core.

ALEX Wilson

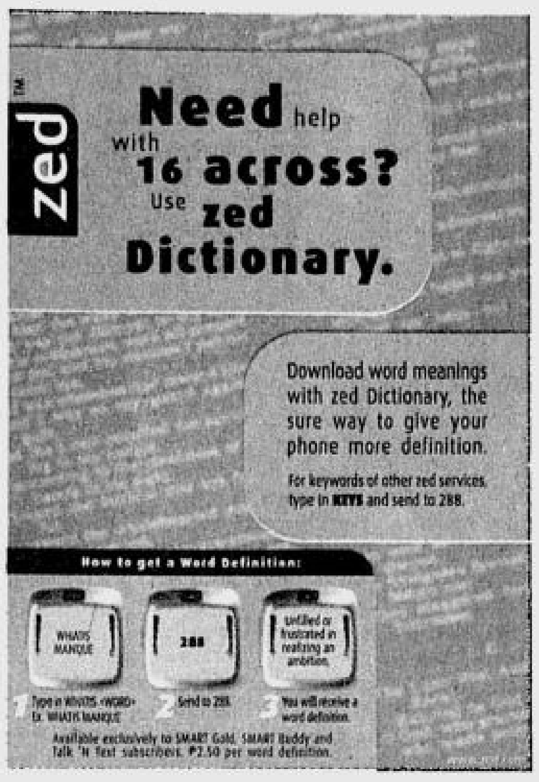
COKE Bolipata

Barley also chose to constantly acknowledge Bobby Gomez, who humbly took a low profile on second keyboards, but whose initial attempt at arranging for cello while on a six-month grind in Okayama, Japan resulted in a highly charged experience for the other instrumentalists as well. It was also Gomez's high-pitched vocals, albeit lacking his trademark falsetto, that saved the day for Wilson's demanding vocal requirements on Anglo-Cubano.

Kudos definitely go to musical director Toti Fuentes, who ably steered the group and commanded respect as no other band leader could possibly do with a similar group. Years of experience on the American circuit served him in good stead, as Fuentes—whom Barley mistakenly called Tito Puente on one occasion—rose to deliver a diverse and demanding repertoire, while providing comic relief from time to time.

Let's hope that the British Council and its valued partners can continue presenting thoroughly enjoyable programs like "Fusion!", which serve to inform and enlighten even jaded listeners. The all-star ensemble they put together was definitely a powerhouse.

TOTI Fuentes on keyboard, Mon David on vocals and Meong Pacana on bass



zed
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For keywords of other zed services, type in KEYS and send to 288.
How to get a Word Definition:
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An intellectual and spiritual approach to still life

BY CONSTANTINO C. TEJERO

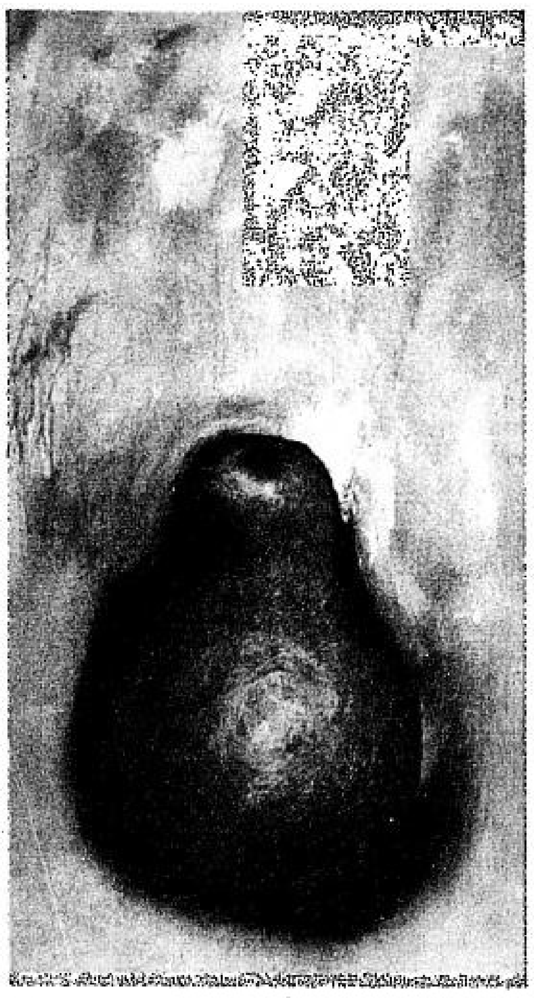
SOME think of the still life as a lesser genre in painting, for what grand themes can one read in objects such as fruits and flowers, vegetables and kitchen utensils?

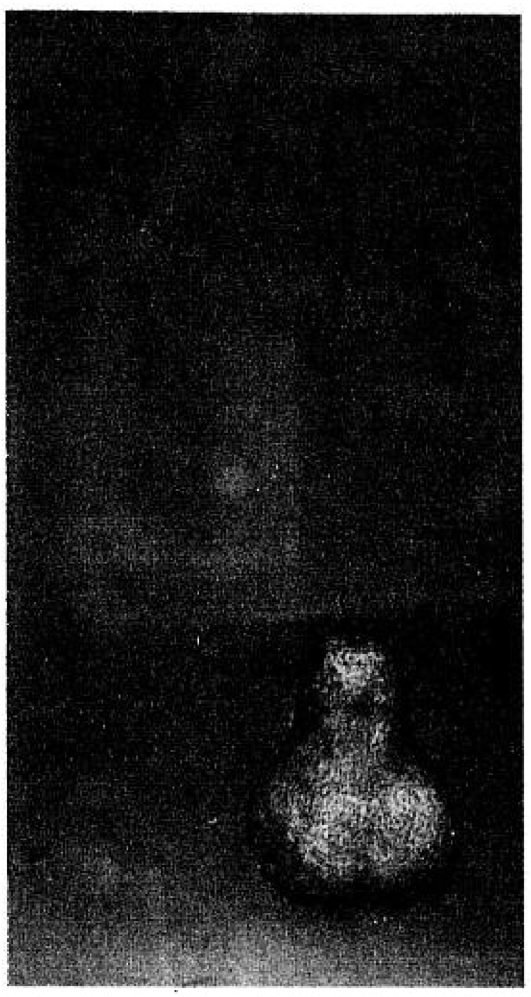
They forgot that from those innocuous small-scale paintings of Dutch artists came the gloomy *vanitas*, the naturalism of Jean-Baptiste Chardin, and the intellectual representation of objects by the Cubists.

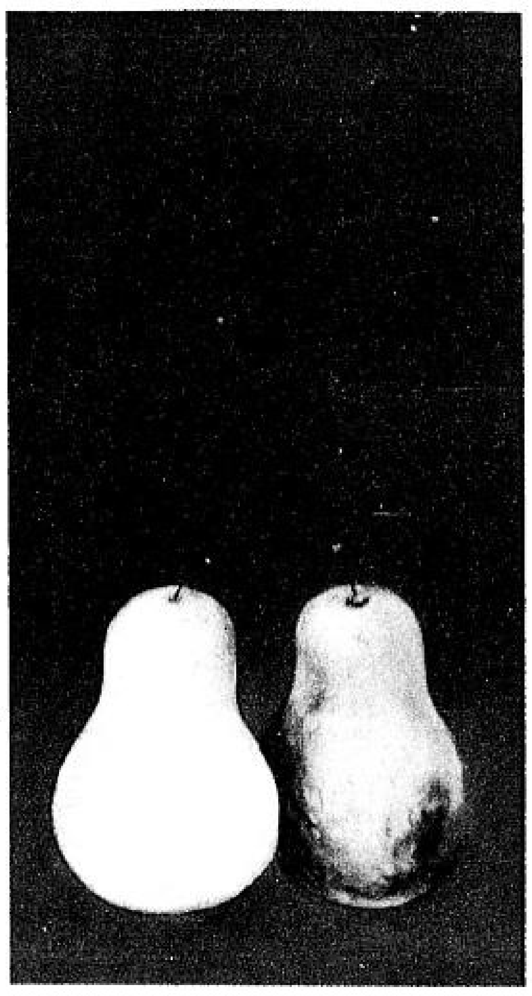
Joel Mendez has chosen this intellectual approach to the genre in his exhibit "Wine & Dine," held Sept. 6-18 at West Gallery in Artspace, 3/L, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati City.

These are 23 pieces in oil on canvas, mostly 20" x 11" with four 30" x 24" in box-type frames. All are spare renditions of fruits, fish and wine bottles, which differ vastly from that common-garden-variety still life often passed off as art (such as a frothy rendition of flowers justified as a celebration of color or exuberance of life).

Mendez started as an abstractionist, but he has gone into representational painting of late. This is the first time he did still life. The artist says that, after painting for nine years, he no longer feels compelled to meet the market's expectations. He is now painting primarily to please himself.


"ONE PEAR"


"ONE PEAR"


"TWO PEARS"

A white fish

The lightness, even flippancy, of the exhibit's title notwithstanding, the viewer finds a certain gravitas in the imagery, style and technique. The artist composed these pieces with literally mathematical precision. Here he resorted to adapting the Fibonacci series, in which each number in the series is a sum of the preceding two numbers.

Thus, the series of images consists of titles such as "One Pear," "Two Pears," "Three Pears," or "One Cherry," "Two Cherries," "Three Cherries," "Five Cherries."

The number series, seen in many natural patterns, was discovered by Italian mathematician Leonardo Fibonacci. Its principle Mendez applied to his art thus: "A fish can stand alone on a canvas or be joined by another in the next piece. The important thing is finding balance, so that the subjects fit in well from any angle you view them."

One could say that the technique approximates Cézanne's use of the still life in his experiments with structure, which heavily influenced Cubism.

The pieces are all variations on the same objects: fish, pear, cherry, wine bottle and wine glass. The figures look practically the same but with some variations in the nuances of colors and the sizes of subjects.

One fish, for instance, is rendered white against a background of gray, slate and gold. In another piece, it is a small elongated white form on a field of gray with an impasto blue plane.

Still another has a cream-colored fish on a reddish-brown field with an impasto red band below. Then the fish becomes brown and cream on a gray field with an impasto red band below. Finally, it is a sketchy image, outlined on a wash of gray, white, ochre and blue.

A giant fruit

One piece has a cream fish and a blue one on a narrow plane of gray, with their bluish reflections on a blue plane below. In another piece, it is a cream one and a brown one on a gray plane with a bright-blue plane above.

Then, on a wash of gold, white, red, gray, ochre and blue, a bigger fish is outlined in black on white with its eye looking like the head of a screw, while a smaller one above has a gold highlight and a dislocated eye.

"Three Fish" has a beige one and a white one on a gray plane, and a third outlined in blue on a blue plane.

"One Wine, One Glass, One Cherry" has on a gray field arranged a white wine bottle aglint with a greenish light and with a gray arch above, a brown glass with white highlight, and a glistening red cherry at the bottom of the glass.

"Two Wines" has an outline of an acid-green bottle and a silhouette of another bottle with ochre highlight.

An image of one pear is a golden-yellow fruit on a gray field. Another has the fruit rendered white on gray, with brownish highlight and blue shadow. A third has the fruit shaped by tinges of red, gold and brown on whitish gray, with shadow of black and blue.

One big canvas is dominated by one pear, a giant golden-yellow fruit on a royal-blue field. (This is the most impressive in the series.)

"Two Pears" has a white fruit outlined in brown, and a brown one with yellowish-white highlight, on a gray field. In "Three Pears," this becomes a white fruit on a brown plane and two yellow fruits on a gray plane.

Objects' appeal

One cherry is a small red spot with white highlight on a yellowish-gray field. A giant version of this has the very red fruit bordered and shadowed with blue-green, on a wash of gold with grayish streaks.

"Two Cherries" has two tiny red fruits aureoled with brown occupying a fraction of the gray canvas, like bird's eggs in a nest. "Three Cherries" has red dots with ochre highlight on a gray field with golden sheen. "Five Cherries" has two red fruits and three reddish-brown ones on gray, like marbles arranged in a vertical row.

The exhibit's title notwithstanding, no one would like to wine and dine on these things, such as they look. Their appeal as objects is primarily visual and resolutely intellectual, even spiritual.

Because in them one may read religious symbolism if one wants to, particularly the wine and fish. In the nuances of the color variations, such as in the fruits turning from red or yellow into brown, one may discern the *vanitas* still life, symbolic of the impermanence of things, the transience of life.

Mendez says he likes his work to "blend with the surroundings more than being the center of attention." But try hanging any of these in your dining room or sala and see if it will not dominate everything in sight, including the dusty *santos* in the corner.

Sa-Ock Kim at Finale, Bert Gallardo and Jaime Montero at West Gallery

VISUAL ARTS

KOREAN ARTIST AT THE FINALE. Sa-Ock Kim will mount her latest exhibit on watercolor dubbed "Zinia Sanctuary" at the Finale Art Gallery, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City. Sa-Ock Kim's works are visual haikus. Her subjects are plants. The exhibit will run on Sept. 18-30.

GALLARDO AT WEST GALLERY. Bert Gallardo will mount his second one-man show, dubbed "Bouquets of Sunlight," on Sept. 20, at the West Gallery, 3/F, Glorietta 4, Makati City. Like his earlier works, Gallardo's 20 acrylic canvases of sunflowers betray an irrepressible optimism, not unlike the victorious drive of sturdy blooms breaking through inhospitable terrain and undergrowth into the brilliant sunlight. The exhibit will run until Oct. 2. Call 752-7028.

MONTERO AT WEST GALLERY. Long-time educator and artist Jaime Montero counts his experiences as a continuing journey to self-discovery. The result of which is "Paglalakbay II- Sagada to Vermont, USA," his latest one-man exhibit of paintings, sculptures and prints at the West Gallery, West Avenue, QC, on Sept.17-30. Call 411-0336/9221.

PHOTOGRAPHS AT THE ALCOVE. Coffee house Figaro is sponsoring a photographic show on Sept. 20 to Oct. 24 at the Alcove Photo Gallery of the Filipinas Heritage Library in Makati. The photos are by graduates of the Manila photo workshop of Alcove and EyeAsia Philippines.

GROUP EXHIBIT. "Space Meeting Place," opened on Sept. 6, featuring new artworks by contemporary Filipino artists, who have explored areas where sculpture, installation art and architecture meet. Renowned conceptual artist Roberto Chabet leads the artists in this exhibition of three-dimensional artworks. Participating artists include Juan Alcazaren, Ringo Bunean, Lena Cobangbang, Bernardo Pacquing, Yasmin Sison and Gerardo Tan. The exhibit will run until Sept. 30 at the Ayala Museum. Call 929-8602.

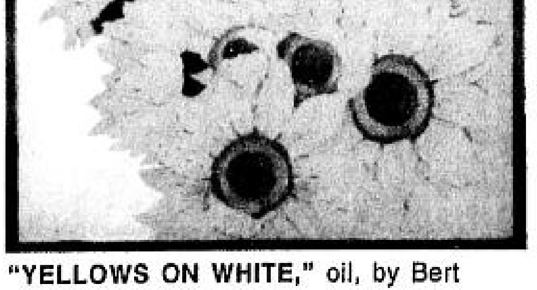
LUNDA GROUP AT LE SOUFFLÉ. The Luntiang Daigdig Artists Group Inc. (Lunda), with Le Soufflé Bistro, holds its 32nd exhibit dubbed "Colorsplendor: The Best of Lunda 2001," at the 2/F of Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Ruby Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Participating Lunda artists are noted painter/founder Solano Cruz, president Arturo Cuvinar, Joseph Clavita, Carolina Estrada, Ma. Delanie Andres, Ben Andres, Rondy Cabiles, Rolly Rosal, Romeo Lacson, Efren Gutierrez and Lilet Vizmanos. Part of the exhibit sale will benefit a priority environmental project of the Clean and Green Foundation. The exhibit runs until Oct.15. Call 636-1614.

BITANCOR AT LIONGOREN GALLERY. Multiawarded painter Jeho Bitancor mounts his sixth solo exhibit dubbed "Rebolusyon," at the Liongoren Gallery, New York Street, Cubao, QC, from Sept. 22 to Oct. 8. The show, consisting of 15 medium- to large-scale oil paintings, is a searing pictorial commentary of what happened in Edsa II from a participant's point of view.

BULACAN ARTISTS. Members of Lakan Sining ng Bulacan present "Linggo ng Sining Bulacan 2001," at the Philamlife Art Hall, Philamlife Building, United Nations Avenue, Ermita, Manila. Participating artists include Jose Joya, Malang, Al Perez, Fil dela Cruz, Raul Isidro, Cee Cadid, Philip Victor, Soler Santos, Steve Santos, Fred Villanueva, Lito Carating, Roi Veneracion, Jose Marasigan, Danny Pangan, Rudolf Gonzales, Salvador Ching, Godofredo Reyes, Willie Reyes, Joey Angeles, Ramon Hilario, Jess Gellada, Nilo Badajos, Mario Santiago, Rafael Asuncion, Conrado Mercado, Caloy Trinidad, Julius Limpe, Marivic Formoso, C.J. de Silva, Nap Trono, Eric Marquez, Aris Bagtas, Reynato Villanueva, Mon Castillo, Cris Velasco, Mike Danganan, Nestor Villanueva, Aro Soriano, Justin Nuyda, Joey de Leon, Paz Cadid, Waldo Villanueva, Nemy Macapugay, Jenny Cenizal, Eric Marquez, Ben Palao, Ambie Abano, Ernie Velasquez, Dante Castillo, Fred Rivera, Ernie Patricio, Lito de Guzman, Criz Pasco, Rey Salamat, Edmon Samonte, Arman Sta. Ana, Jenny Villanueva, Susan Africa, Sonny Y Niguez, Jun Alvarez and Jes Santos. The exhibit runs until Sept. 25.

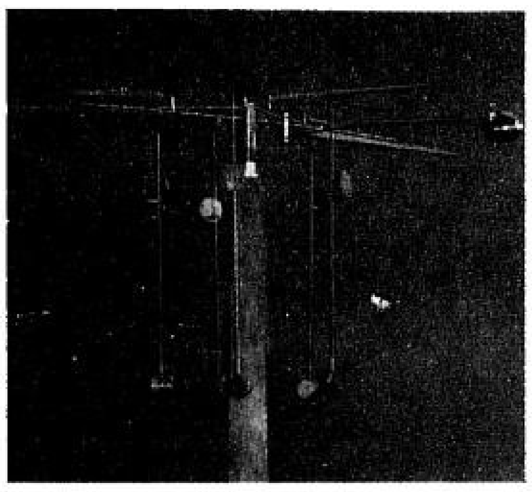
MIRASOL AT CRUCIBLE GALLERY. Arnel Mirasol's successful solo exhibit, "Old-fashioned Fairy Tale Art," has been extended until Sept. 20, at the Crucible Gallery, 4/F, Building A, SM Megamall.

MONTILLA AT HERALD. Herald Suites presents representational impressionist Ricky Montilla's recent works, dubbed "Esthetic Impressions," from Sept. 27 to Oct. 19, at Herald Suites, 2168 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City. His subject matter includes flora, fauna, landscapes, still lifes and some genre scenes. Call 759-6349/6270 or 894-1219.


"YELLOWS ON WHITE," oil, by Bert Gallardo at West Gallery

THE EIGHTH one-woman exhibit of Rhea de la Rosa, "Flowers," consists of oils and pastels. Her new art form is the photomontage, composite pictures of objects, which when joined together, assume a new and more complex definition. The show runs until Sept. 24, at the Gallery A, 4/L SM Megamall Building A, Mandaluyong City. Call 634-2704.

THE OPENING of "Boundless III" was led by Gov. Pete Morales, Dr. Rossana L. Sanchez, Concepcion Carmelo-Pascal, Fred Baldemor, Christine Caoile and Vic Salta at Edsa Plaza Hotel, Mezzanine, Garden Way, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City. The exhibit will run until Sept. 22. Participating artists include Marti, Eliezer Dimaculangan, Rubbie Nubla, Al Perez, Fred Baldemor, Caloy Gabuco, Salvador Arellano, Camille Delarosa, Dean Ginny Dandan, Elmer Gernale, Loreto Racuya, Jose Hernandez, Fred Ramirez, Panilo Norman Dreo, Janir Sebastian, Wally Baldemor, Romeo Monte, Ding Hidalgo and Wally Sy. It also features the works of masters like Fernando Amorsolo, Simon Flores, Miguel Zaragoza, Alfredo Carmelo, Juan Arellano, Vicente Manansala and Onib Olmedo.


ARNEL Borja mixes art and math in "The Opneustos in Fulcrum Balance," his recent collection of mobile sculptures. His new sculptures capture the artist's creative side as well as his passion for numbers. The exhibit runs until Sept. 22 at the Enterprise Center.

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Instructional video on candle-making now out

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The CD is the first in a series on arts and crafts by Bella, a graduate of fine arts at the Maastricht Academy of Visual Arts.

The video covers all aspects of candle-making, including materials, equipment and innovative techniques. Candles made are floating, layered, scented, figurine, container, ice-cool and gel.

The video is for both beginner and practitioner. Children can also benefit from the video. Children can make some of the candles if they are at least 9 years old and under adult supervision.

The instructional video is now available at National Bookstore (Glorietta 1, Shangri-La Plaza, Robinsons Place, Katipunan, QC, Filinvest Festival Mall, Alabang Casa Filipina Arcade and New Alabang Commercial Center), Fil Bookstore (Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Glorietta 1, Katipunan, Alabang Town Center, Malate, Claro M. Recto in Manila and Davao City) and Stitches 'n Things (SM Megamall and SM Southmall).

"Victor Bella Candle-making Kits" will be distributed at Stitches 'n Things beginning Sept 22.

For Iloilo, Masbate and Bacolod residents, call Rica Dimayuga at (036) 621-3540 or e-mail kandila-@email.com

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Rotary Club of Makati sponsors art contest

THE ROTARY Club of Makati, Pasong Tamo will be sponsoring an on-the-spot drawing and painting contest for students in both public and private schools and out-of-school youth in the National Capital Region to be held at the 2/L of the Ayala Mall, Glorietta 3, Ayala Center in Makati City on Sept. 30, at 1-5 p.m.

The contest theme and specific subject for drawing/painting of each of the three categories of the contestants will be given only before the contest starts.

A participant is allowed to submit only one entry.

Registration of contestants (using the attached application form) can be made on or before Sept. 30 during office hours at the office of the secretariat of the Rotary Club of Makati, Pasong Tamo located at CCJS, 2/F, The Plaza Royale, 120 L.P. Leviste (formerly Alfaro) St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. However, participants may also register on the contest day itself at the contest site from 12 to 1 p.m. Registration of contestants can also be done through fax nos. 892-7948; 818-8971 or e-mail bongcarag@yahoo.com and ccjs@epic.net. A contestant will pay a token participation fee of P10. Call 812-5246 to 48 (Ante/Jackie) and/or 372-1152 (Mr. F. B. Sena).

The criteria for judging entries shall be relevance to the theme (30 percent), visual impact (35 percent) and originality/creativity (35 percent).

All entries shall become the property of the Rotary Club of Makati, Pasong Tamo.

The announcement of winners will be made immediately after the contest.

The prizes for each group are: first place—P5,000 plus trophy and gift certificate (Artist F.B. Sena's Summer Art Workshop 2002); second place—P3,000 plus trophy; third place—P2,000 plus trophy; and three honorable mentions—P500 plus gold medal.

All winners will receive art materials from Faber Castelle while all participants will receive certificates of participation.

Contest adviser is artist Fernando B. Sena. The Rotary Club project chair is immediate past president and artist Carolina L. Llanillo while the vice chair is director Alvin Romero.

Encore for Orosa-Goquingco, Israel's envoy fetes staff, Sri Lanka toasts Magsaysay laureate

THE OROSA SISTERS: Baby Orosa, National Artist Leonor Orosa Goquingco and R. del Rosario

NATIONAL Artist for Dance **Leonor Orosa Goquingco** launched her collection of essays, "Curtain Call, Selected Reviews" at the CCP lobby recently with her many admiring friends in attendance. But it wasn't just any book launch. This one was enlivened with performances by soprano **Rachelle Gerodias, Douglas Nierras'** Powerdance doing "Gloria," **Monique Wilson** reading Barret Browning's "How Do I Love Thee," **Toni Lopez-Gonzalez**'s modern dance number, "Black Widow/Spider Woman," and Ballet Manila's "Don Quijote Pas de Deux."

Tami Monsod's interpretation of an excerpt from "The Vagina Monologues" was fantastic. What an actress!

* * *

Israel's multitalented and popular Ambassador **Irit Ben-Abba** hosted a reception for newly arrived members of her staff at her penthouse with a spectacular view of the city. Mingling with the guests enjoying kosher (as well as the non-kosher) buffet were newly arrived **Ziva** and **Yaron Somech, Rachel** and **Roi Dvir** and the Chief Security Officer **Tomer Morag.**

* * *

Sri Lankan Ambassador **Pitiduwa Gamage Karunasiri** and Mme. **Sakuntala Karunasiri** hosted a reception at their residence for Magsaysay Awardee for Journalism, Literature and Creative Communication Dr. **W.D. Amaradeva.** Among the guests at the well-attended party were members of the Asian Development Bank and the diplomatic corps including Chilean Ambassador **Carmen Lynam**, Bangladesh Ambassador **Mohammad Farooq** and Australian Ambassador and Ms **John Buckley**.

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

Amiga

UDARA Fernando, Chandrala Fernando, Minoli Di Soysa,Yosama Senevizatre

LATHA Seetharam, Seetha Karunaratne, Neela Gunasekera and Chandana Karunaratne

MME. Mohammad Farooq of Bangladesh, Mme. Karunasiri and Mme. Sereywath of Cambodia

SRI Lankan Ambassador P.G. Karunasiri, Mme. E.K. Sereywath, Mme. Sakuntala Karunasiri and Cambodian Ambassador E.K. Sereywath

MONIQUE Wilson, Goquingco and Pamela Asper

PHOTOS: BETOY JOHNSON

ANDING Roces

BRITISH Council's Rodney Bell

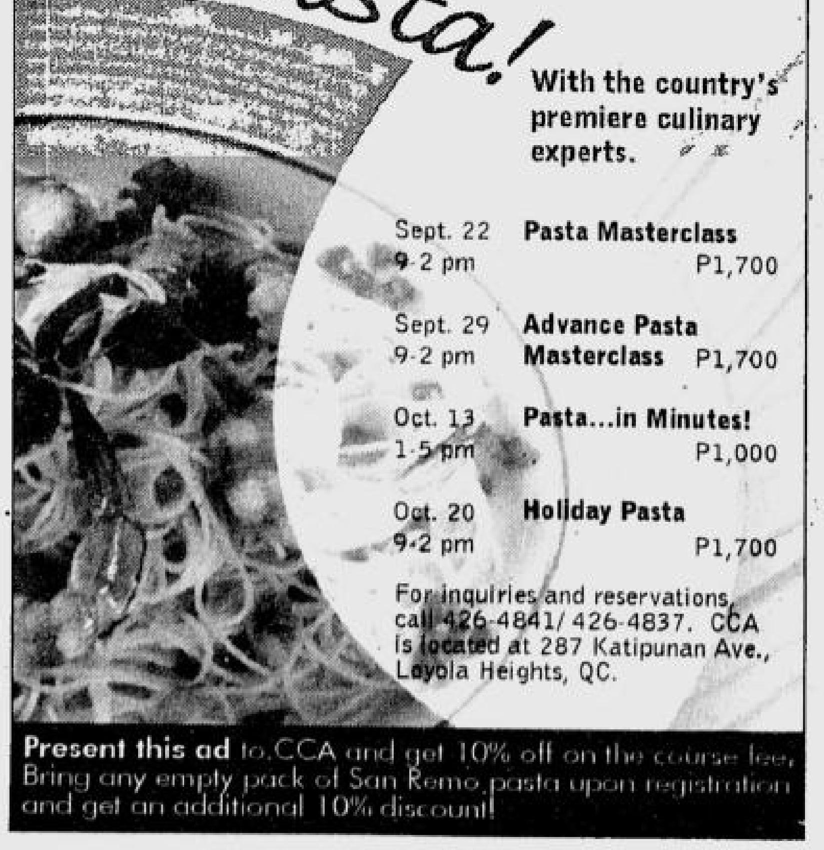
JAVIER Galvan of Instituto Cervantes, Lourdes Brillantes and Greg Brillantes

EMBASSY staff Yaron Somech, administrative attaché Ziva Somech, Ambassador Irit Ben-Abba, Rachel Dvir, second secretary Roi Dvir and chief security attaché Tomer Marag

AMBASSADOR Ben-Abba and Mandarin GM Helmut Geisberg

'Dulaang Kapiterya'

THE UP-CMC Broadcasting Association, now at the "Peak of the Pulse" celebrating 34 years of glorious tradition and excellence, presents "Dulaang Kapiterya," a theatrical production written, produced, directed and acted out by Broad Assers. Playdates are on Sept. 21 and 22, 6 p.m. at the Dalisay Aldaba Hall (behind UP Theater). Free coffee and pastries will be served after the show. Call Neprissa Maamo at (0917) 350-0131 or Norman at (0919) 476-7176.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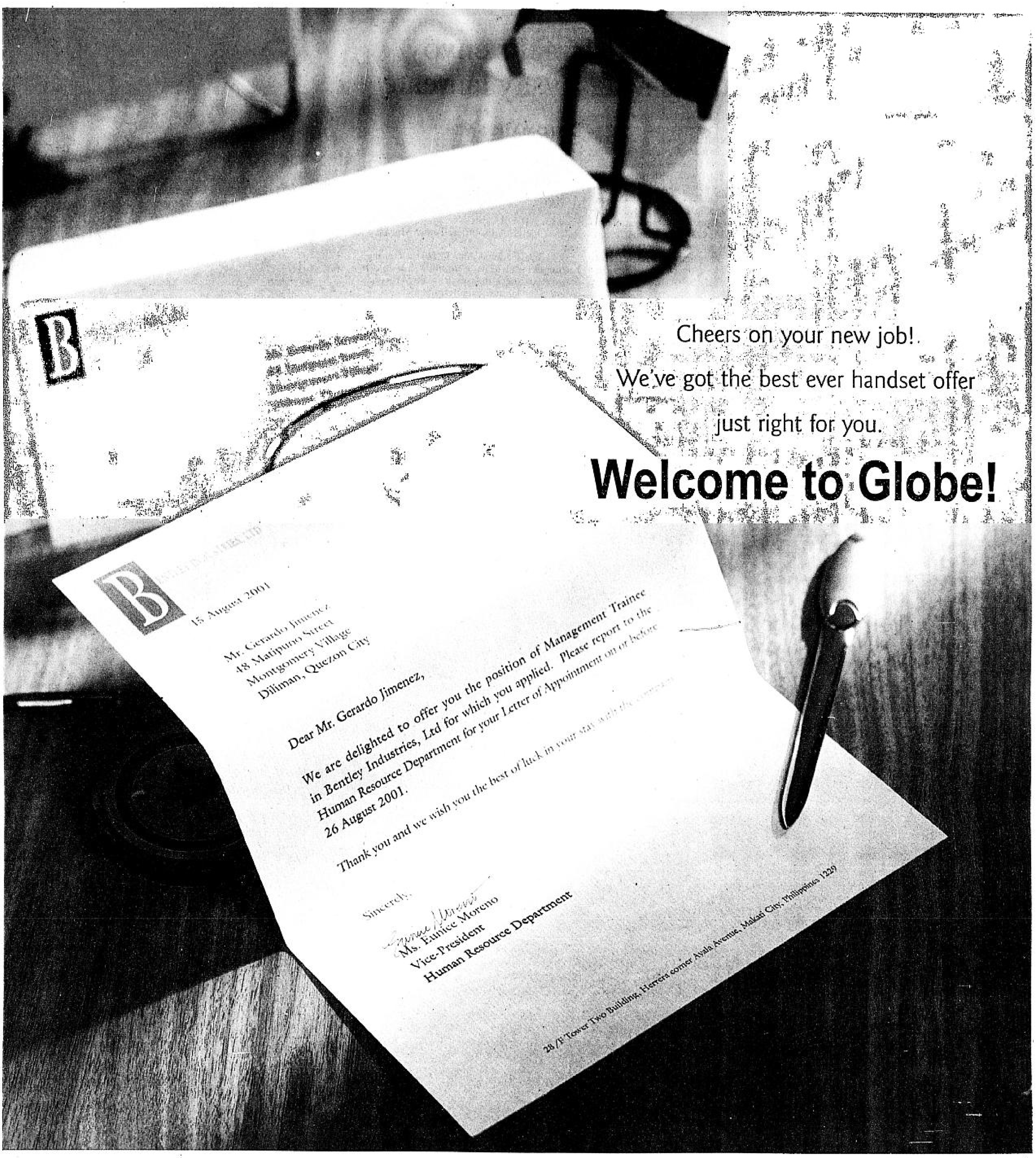
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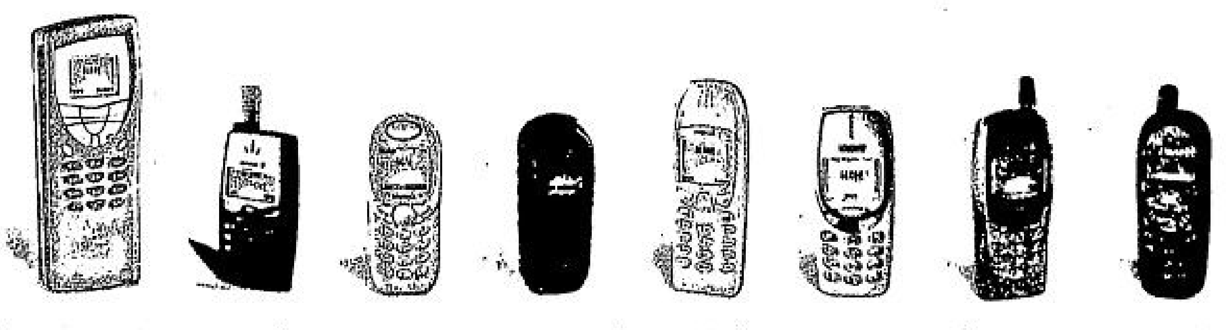
Thank you and we wish you the best of luck in your stay with the company.

Sincerely,

Ms. Eunice Moreno
Vice-President
Human Resource Department

28/F Tower Two Building, Herrera corner Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Philippines 1229



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A daughter tells on her mother

TEACHER TO TYCOON
Trining
The life and times of Trinidad Diaz Enriquez
By Erlinda Enriquez Panlilio

Teacher to Tycoon: The Life and Times of Trinidad Diaz Enriquez
By Erlinda Enriquez Panlilio
Anvil Publishing, Manila, 2000

BY DOREEN G. FERNANDEZ

REVIEW

IT is a heroic venture: to retrieve the voice, the significant moments, the essence of a person no longer living. The data for presidential biographies are usually carefully gathered even while the person is living, with official persons recording the minutiae and the process of leadership, perhaps of greatness. Thus the official photographers, videographers, archivists for national leaders, and also the speechwriters and appointed biographers.

But when the subject of the biography is someone actively living from day to day without planning to leave a record, not concerned with certifying greatness, even humbly denying its presence, what does the biographer do?

Trinidad Diaz Enriquez, an energetic, caring teacher who, alongside her husband, built a restaurant empire, had indeed saved many of the

FROM/ p.F2

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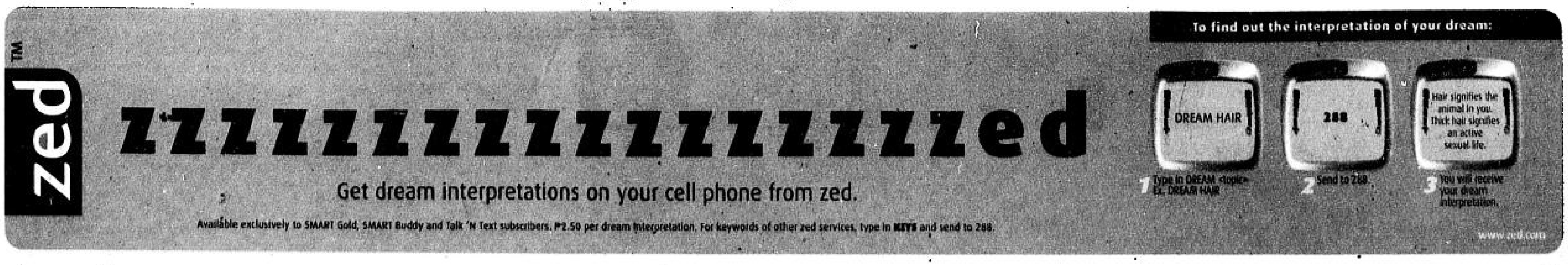
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A village turns out for fairy tales

By Cynthia O. Valdes

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

MY earliest and fondest recollection is of sitting on the floor with my siblings, gathered around our mother who was herself cross-legged on the floor. I must have been 5 or 6 years old since I kind of recall there were three others of my brothers and sisters around.

It was before television. There were no books either. Not that they mattered. None of us children were old enough to be reading yet. And it was wartime, a worrisome time. The Japanese had occupied Manila.

Our mother was the greatest storyteller. She held us spellbound with her favorite tales of "Peter Rabbit" and other Mother Goose stories, "Cinderella," "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," "Aladdin and His Magic Lamp" and "Sinbad the Sailor."

I know how the other stories went but I'm still trying to remember the story of "Sindbad." Beyond recalling that it is one of the tales Scheherazade told the Sultan to keep him in suspense for a thousand and one nights that he may not chop off her head when dawn came, the rest of the tale I have completely forgotten. And it keeps playing on and on in my mind. I really would like to know how that story went... it has become somewhat of a recurring thought, an obsession.

Voyage recreated

"Sindbad the Sailor," in the words of Tim Severin who recreated his voyage in fairly recent times, was "a legendary Arab adventurer" and likely "a composite of historical figures." In search of Sindbad, Severin built a boat, a reconstruction of a merchant vessel as illustrated in a 13th century manuscript. He then sailed from Oman in what is now known as the United Arab Emirates into the Indian Ocean in much the same way that Sindbad must have done in an earlier time.

Dubbed the "Sohar," the vessel was named ostensibly after the birthplace of the legendary Sindbad. After many months at sea, battered by storms and the sea's fury, the "Sohar" finally finds itself in the Pearl River leading to the port of Canton. In the wake of Sindbad, several centuries earlier, Severin and his courageous crew finally make it to China.

Tales for all ages

Fairy tales are delightful to children and to many grown-ups who remain children at heart. Many fairy tales are old-fashioned and time-honored classics. They have been compiled from all sources, tales told and retold, folklore and legends. In some cases, such as the old English stories of "Jack, the Giant Killer" and "Tom Thumb," it is no longer known who actually wrote them.

Fairy tales have been adapted into dance, film and drama, modified by modern writers into contemporary language. The tales of Hans Christian Andersen have been retold in 80 different languages, among them Japanese, Chinese, Russian, Persian, Hindustani, Swahili and even Esperanto. Only the Bible and Shakespeare are better read than his stories.

The brothers Grimm, (Jakob and Wilhelm) were German philologists born in the 18th century, who compiled an authentic collection of German fairy tales destined to carry the figures of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," "Rapunzel," Rumpelstilskin" and "Snow White and Rose Red," beloved by all children far beyond the borders of Germany.

Charles Perrault, French writer and philosopher, was born in Paris in 1628. Although his ideas were to rule French thought in the years after the death of Louis XIV and the French Revolution, he is best remembered today for a collection of fairy tales taken from popular folklore called "Mother Goose" and the classic everyone knows and loves, "Cinderella."

"A Thousand and One Nights" comes from a version of oriental texts compiled and translated by Sir Richard Francis Burton (1821-1890). Burton was a gifted linguist and he acquired a remarkable knowledge of Arabic, Hindustani and Persian while serving in the British Army in India.

His work, although in quaint English which, even in his day was considered archaic, is what has come to us in modern times, as the "Arabian Nights," further reworked by other writers to make it more appealing to today's readers.

Fairy tales are purely entertainment. Unlike the Fables of Aesop, they are not meant to be instructive nor do they necessarily carry a "moral lesson." Except that the moral of virtue is always rewarded and evil inevitably vanquished. Children will soon discover in their own way that in real life, beautiful people are not always good and ugly ones wicked; that of three sons, the youngest is not always the "handsomest" and "goodest" and not every stepmother is cruel.

Story-telling

One day, our parish priest, Fr. Chito Bernardo, was doing his rounds of pastoral visits. He admonished us, his parishioners, to get to know our neighbors, be involved in the community. I turned to the others at our table. There was a lady doctor, an anesthesiologist, but whenever I ran into her, she would have a book in hand. Why not a Book Club?, I asked.

I don't remember at what point our "Book Club" became a "Story-telling Club. But our Barangay Ayala Alabang had a community library and there were lots of interesting books. Why not promote the library and at the same time encourage reading in our Village children? Moreover, this was a project that would involve our own children and grandchildren.

Through Kagawad Roland Pineda, who spearheaded the establishment of the library some three years ago, our barangay said "yes" to sponsoring the story-telling sessions.

At last, I may finally find out what really happened to Sindbad...a fond memory of my childhood, a tale that inspired Tim Severin's yarn for National Geographic Magazine.

National Book Award winners

ANVIL Publishing Inc. was named Publisher of the Year for the sixth time at the recently concluded awards ceremony of the 2000 Manila Critics Circle National Book Awards at the SM Megamall. Now in its 20th year, the National Book Awards seek to recognize the best books published the previous year. The award was Anvil's second straight year of being cited the publisher who contributed the most to the growth of the publishing industry during the past year. Karina Bolasco, Anvil publishing manager, received the award.

INQUIRER cartoonist Jess Abrera won his second National Book Award for Cartoons for "The Best of A.Lipin: Cartoons Strips 1985-2000," which was co-published by INQUIRER Books and Anvil. Abrera had previously won for "Pinoy Nga!" Former Sunday INQUIRER Magazine editor Lorna Kalaw-Tirol was one of the two winners of the National Book Award for Journalism for "Public Faces, Private Lives."

The Carlos Palanca Foundation received a special citation for publishing the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature anthologies. "Xilef," written by Augie Rivera, illustrated by Beth Parrocha-Doctolero and published by Adarna House, received the award for Best Design. Here is a complete list of winners:

Anthology: "Intsik: An Anthology of Chinese Filipino Writing," edited by Caroline S. Hau (Anvil).

Art: "Kiukok: Deconstructing Despair" by Alfredo Roces (Metropolitan Museum of Manila).

Biography/Autobiography: "Lives at the Margin: Biography of Filipinos Obscure, Ordinary and Heroic," edited by Alfred W. McCoy (Ateneo de Manila University Press) and "Teacher to Tycoon: The Life and Times of Trinidad Diaz Enriquez" by Erlinda Enriquez Panlilio (Anvil).

Cartoons: "The Best of A.Lipin" by Jess Abrera (INQUIRER Books and Anvil).

Children's Literature: "Cinco de Noviembre" by Rene Javellana, S.J. (The Bookmark Inc.), "The Brothers Wu and the Goodluck Eel" by Fran Ng (Tahanan) and "A Sea of Stories: Tales from Sulu" by Carla M. Pacis (Bookmark).

Comic Books: "Trip to Tagaytay" by Arnold Arre (Quest Ventures and Tala Studios).

Cookbooks and Food: "In My Basket: The Cookbook" by Lydia D. Castillo (Bookmark).

Drama: "Almanac for a Revolution" by Nicolas Pichay (UP Press).

Editing: "Lina Flor: Collected Works," edited by Soledad S. Reyes (Anvil).

Environment: "The Last Great Forest" by Jose Ma. Lorenzo Tan (Bookmark).

Essay: "UP into the 21st Century and Other Essays" by Francisco Nemenzo (UP Press) and "Mysteries & Memories" by Doris Trinidad (Giraffe Books).

Fiction: "My Sad Republic" by Eric Gamalinda (UP Press), "Life Before X and Other Stories" by Angelo Rodriguez Lacuesta (UP Press) and "Etsa-Puwera" by Jun Cruz Reyes (UP Press).

Film Criticism: "Bida sa Pelikula: Richard Gomez at ang Mito ng Pagkalalake, Sharon Cuneta at ang Perpetwal ng Birhen at Iba Pa" by Rolando B. Tolentino (Anvil).

History: "White Love and Other Events in Filipino History" by Vicente L. Rafael (ADMU Press) and "Presidential Plunder: The Quest for the Marcos Ill-Gotten Wealth" by Jovito R. Salonga (University of the Philippines).

Journalism: "Betrayals of the Public Trust: Investigative Reports on Corruption," edited by Sheila S. Coronel (Phil. Center for Investigative Journalism) and "Public Faces, Private Lives" by Lorna Kalaw-Tirol (Anvil).

Linguistics: "Defining Standard Philippine English: Its Status and Grammatical Features" by Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista (DLSU Press).

Literary Criticism: "Necessary Fictions: Philippine Literature and the Nation, 1946-1980" by Caroline S. Hau (ADMU Press) and "Writing the Nation/Pag-akda ng Bansa" by Bienvenido Lumbera (UP Press).

Personal Anthology: "The Sea-Gypsies Stay" by Rowena Torrevillas (UP Press).

Poetry: "Waking Ice: Poems" by Ricardo M. de Ungria (Anvil) and "Edad Medya: Mga Tula sa Katanghaliang Gulang" by Jose F. Lacaba (Anvil).

Screenplay: "Rizal: Bayaning 3rd World: 2 Dulang Pampelikula" by Mike de Leon and Clodualdo del Mundo Jr. (DLSU Press).

Social Sciences: "Cuaresma," edited by Gilda Cordero Fernando and Fernando N. Zialcita (Bookmark).

Theology and Religion: "The Shepherd's Voice: Gospel Reflections for All Seasons" by Joseph V. Landy, S.J. (Tahanan).

Travel: "Philippine Ecodestinations" by Amadis Ma. Guerrero (Anvil) and "Why I Travel & Other Essays by Fourteen Women," edited by Cristina Pantoja-Hidalgo and Erlinda Enriquez Panlilio (Anvil).

The MCC is a nonstock, nonprofit organization of professional literary critics and newspaper columnists who have been recognizing the country's best books with the National Book Award since 1981. The MCC's current members are: Juaniyo Arcellana, Fr. Miguel A. Bernad, S.J., Isagani R. Cruz, Ruel S. de Vera, Ophelia Alcantara Dimalanta, Doreen G. Fernandez, Resil B. Mojares, Danton R. Remoto and Alfred A. Yuson.

A daughter tells on her mother

(From page F1)

documents necessary for biography: newspaper clippings, financial records, letters, photos, other memorabilia. These were eventually handed over to writer Estrella Alfon for a commissioned biography, but all were unfortunately lost in a *bodega* fire at the Philippine Village Hotel. Estrella herself died some years later, and fate—through the voices of her mother's friends, and her own private conviction—told Erlinda Enriquez Panlilio, Doña Trining's only daughter, that the job was inevitably hers.

There began what Erlinda calls "my personal quest for the details of my mother's past, which had been muddled by my own mixed feelings about her, our conflicts and disagreements standing out more vividly than the fleeting moments of shared triumphs and familial joys. Our relationship had often been adversarial, rather than friendly and loving. Our family business, which had sustained and sheltered us, was also a termite that gnawed through the pillars of our house."

Interview

Erlinda interviewed scores of friends, employees, relatives, colleagues, fellow club members and more, whom she acknowledges in a list headed: "Thanks for your memories." She could really have put herself on the list, because her own memory is her sharpest tool, one that she was able to polish and clear of feelings—smudges on the shining steel—and use as probe, scalpel and ultimately sculptor's chisel, shaping the memory into effective narrative.

"Teacher to Tycoon" takes one through the day-to-day life of Enriquez, but also through the periods of her growth in business (e.g. the Marcos years), and especially through her many-sided relationships with family, friends and associates.

One wonders at the wealth of detail that her biographer gathered long after the records had been burned. It was valuable that they had worked together, but did not always agree; loved each other, but allowed other feelings to surface. The biography works, and in the introduction Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo explains how and why:

"Panlilio... chose to tell a larger story than that of an individual person's struggle. In the tradition of the great biographies, she tried to reconstruct the times in which Trinidad Diaz Enriquez lived: in short, to produce a document which was also social history.

Businesswoman Erlinda Enriquez Panlilio writes about the life of her mother—a mogul in her own right—with passion, determination and courage

"Finally, Mrs. Enriquez's fortune was built during a particularly problematic period in our nation's history, and in close affiliation with the Marcoses... Some of these persons are still alive today, and still powerful... Also still alive are many people whose own lives were deeply affected by the use, or misuse, of that power. Thus, Panlilio ran the risk of offending people on both ebbs of the political spectrum.

"I believe that this book has done admirably well on all three counts. The author has succeeded in keeping her own feelings and personal conflicts with her mother in the background, without, on the one hand, glossing over those traits in the woman's personality which sometimes made life with her a trying thing, and, on the other hand, diminishing her undeniably admirable, even endearing, qualities. She has also tried to be fair and even-handed in her handling of controversial matters, particularly when they involved disagreements within her own family. And she has tried to reconstruct her mother's milieu, beginning with her childhood in... prewar Samar, to the hectic days and glittering nights in Malacañang Palace... In between, there was the war against the Japanese and the heady, hustling postwar period; and after People Power in Edsa, the reckoning under the Corazon Aquino administration.

"Through these turbulent events moves this plucky, shrewd, vigorous, amazing little woman, a kind of whirlwind herself, brooking no barriers, ignoring all setbacks and, along the way, winning not just our interest but our sympathy. So that at the narrative's close, when we see her reduced to helplessness, we don't want it to end this way. (And indeed, it doesn't.)

"This, of course, is the handiwork of the author."

Energy and drive

Linda tells her mother's story as author, recorder, documentor, historian, participant and, yes, daughter. Her story has the energy and drive of her subject. She is obviously not only knowledgeable because close; she is truly her mother's daughter.

Trinidad Diaz Enriquez, mother, born in the town of Gandara in Samar, graduated from the National High School in Catbalogan, earned a teaching degree at the Philippine Normal School, and began her professional life as a critic-teacher at the Samar Provincial Normal School. Her career path took many turns and directions, and ended with her at the helm of the Sulo Hotel, the Philippine Village Hotel, Puerto Azul and various enterprises.

Erlinda Enriquez Panlilio, daughter, went to the University of the Philippines for a degree in nutrition although she had preferred liberal arts, then to the Cornell University Hotel School. Upon her return, mother and daughter worked side by side at the burgeoning family enterprises. When she married, her husband, too, contributed time and talent to the Enriquez-Diaz empire.

At rest

The former schoolteacher became an authentic tycoon, thus the title of the book, but is now at rest from the day's labors, having lost her memory. The author, meanwhile, has been widowed, and has gone back to the writing that had interested her as a student. She returned to writing workshops and to creative writing courses, and wrote the book as her thesis in creative writing, winning an award for Best Feminist Thesis and recently, the National Book Award for biography.

This is Panlilio's first book, and in it she has found her unique voice—speaking with intimacy as daughter, with energy and authority as colleague, and with firm control as writer. Her qualifications for the task of biographer are also a matter for concern: how much of her own voice as daughter/colleague should be heard? How far back or away should she stand as social historian and writer?

She triumphs. Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo's judgment is that "As personal history, it is painstakingly researched; and, like fiction, it is imaginatively reconstructed."

"Teacher to Tycoon" tells of a woman out of the ordinary, one with drive, ambition, intuition, vision and much success. That is not all, however, that makes the book worthwhile. There is also the fact that it is about a mother, from whom children learn not only home wisdom, but insights into being human, an understanding of what it is to be what we are.

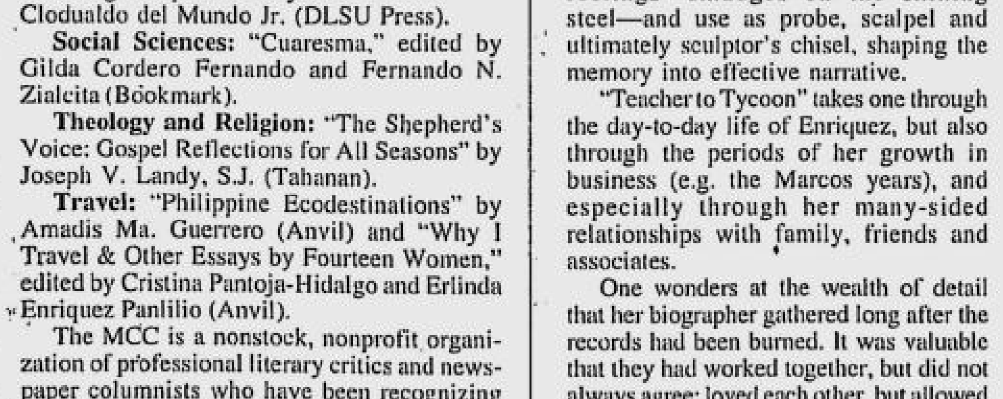
Hallmark raises funds for leukemic patients

FOR THE SIXTH consecutive year, Hallmark, through its local licensee, Filstar Distributors Corp., presents a new set of Hallmark for Life Christmas cards, featuring artworks donated by some of the country's well-known artists. This year they include painters Manuel Baldemor, Platon Varquez, Orville D. R. Tiamson, Jespeliho and photographer George Tapan.

Twelve designs depict the theme "Paskong Pilipino."

There are various styles of greetings to choose from—formal, traditional, business-like or religious. Companies may have their name and logo printed on the cards. Hallmark for Life cards come in packs of 100. Minimum order is two packs.

Proceeds of the card sales go to the Leukemic Indigents Fund Endowment (LIFE), a charitable institution that helps poor child patients get sustained medical treatment such as chemotherapy, radiation and gene therapy and oral and intravenous intake of medicines. LIFE also provides physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual support to the patients and their families.



FILSTAR president Maximo Licauco III, artists George Tapan, Jespeliho and Manuel Baldemor and LIFE chair Dr. Alendry Caviles Jr. pose with the children of the Leukemic Indigents Fund Endowment.

LIFE chair Dr. Alendry Caviles Jr. reports that 37 children have been completely cured under the LIFE program. "Over the last five years, LIFE has helped in full, through donations, about 57 children, and more than 100 have been assisted."

Call Filstar Distributors Corp. at 671-0555/3171.

UP writing fellows named

LIKHAAN: The UP Creative Writing Center announces the awarding of 10 fellowships to the 39th UP National Writers' Workshop, to be held at the Grand Men Seng Hotel, Davao City, Oct. 17-24. The theme of the Davao Workshop is "Lugar sa Pagsulat" to emphasize the importance of writing from the regions.

The workshop will be directed by Ricardo M. de Ungria, newly installed chancellor of UP Mindanao and winner of this year's National Book Award for Poetry of the Manila Critics' Circle.

The chosen fellows are: Genevieve L. Asenjo (Fiction in Filipino), Jose Duke S. Bagulaya (Poetry in Waray), Daryll Jane S. Delgado (Poetry in Waray and Fiction in English), Gemelina A. Lacorte (Fiction in English), Gabriela Alejandra D. Lee (Poetry in English), Michael O. Ligalig (Fiction in Sugbuanon), Karen Kay O. Rivero (Poetry in English), Alex C. de los Santos (Fiction in English), Ramel G. Taculod (Poetry in Sugbuanon) and Cor Marie V. Villojan (Poetry in Karay-a).

The teaching panel will be composed of UP CWC associates and resident fellow Leoncio P. Deriada, winner of the Carlos Palanca Hall of Fame Award; Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, this year's Gawad Balagtas awardee, and multiawarded writers Gemino H. Abad and Jose F. Lacaba.

Unlike the UP Workshop which is held in Baguio, the October workshop is open only to writers based in Visayas and Mindanao. It accepts works written in the major Visayan languages as well as English and Filipino.

Fellows should call Tony Serrano at 922-1830 (UP CWC) or Ralph Semino Galan at (0917) 411-0854 to confirm their attendance, or call Allan at (082) 293-0310 regarding the travel itinerary.

OUR Lady of Manaoag at the St. Anthony de Padua Church

Let's pray for the souls of those who died at the World Trade Center

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

A WEEK has passed since the tragedy at the World Trade Center in New York (Sept. 11) that resulted in the death of thousands of people. People have the sinking feeling that this is just the beginning of more troubles.

What we can do is to continue to pray for peace and offer Masses for the repose of the souls who have died—innocent victims of cruel terrorists.

My friend and I were saying that morning of Sept. 12 that this must be the work of the devil. This tragedy has hurt a lot of us decent people who believe in the good, the beautiful and the true. But it should not stop us from praying.

While you are commuting via car, jeep or bus, bring out your rosary and whisper your Hail Mary for the people who died that their souls may rest in peace. Ask Mama Mary to welcome them. Ask Mama Mary to help us have peace in the world. This message from Medjugorje, dated Aug. 25, comes at an opportune time when we are seeking peace in the world. It tells us to change our lives. It tells us to be holy.

Fr. Luis Ibasco, in his homily on Sept. 12 at Ermita Church, exhorted people to ask forgiveness for their sins. He said: "In times of terrorism, it is also the time to ask forgiveness for our sins. Terrorism is a culture of death, a culture of violence, which is the work of the devil. It is also a time to ask the Blessed Mother for her protection. Mama Mary will not abandon us. She will be there to protect us."

All of us Filipinos and people all over the world are united in grief with what happened in the US. We are connected, according to angel lecturer Penny Zosa.

Penny's niece, Vina Francisco, who works one block away from the World Trade Center, saw the devastation when she went up to street level from the E-train that she rode to work.

She began to flee from the place. Pieces of glass flew everywhere. People shared taxis to get away. "How soon will I forget this?," she asked herself. Not for a long time, I guess, because we who are here already feel devastated, heartbroken that innocent lives were taken by one terrorist act.

Zeny Iglesias asked me, "How can we bring up our children in this kind of environment?"

A young visionary-healer by the name of Mimi Carigaran, 20, from Peñablanca, Cagayan was told by the Blessed Virgin through internal locution that many things would happen. "But this is not the end of the world." This was told to Mimi in September 1998.

Mimi was only 16 when she went into a trance. An *herbolario* said that the Lord would use her as an instrument. Mimi was given the power to heal.

Today, Mimi stays with another visionary, Herminia Diana, whom I wrote about in a past column. She healed a girl in a coma in a Vancouver hospital in 1996. Those who wish to get in touch with Mimi Carigaran can call her c/o Herminia Diana at (046) 572-2730.

Manaoag in Kalayaan, Laguna

SEPT. 9 was a happy day for the people of Kalayaan in Laguna when the 3-ft image of Our Lady of Manaoag was enthroned in the Church of St. Anthony de Padua. Donated by Al Arriesgado upon the request of Edna Toral, the image was enthroned and blessed by Fr. James Alamillo, the parish priest of Manaoag, Pangasinan for nine years.

Fr. Boyet Siddayao, the parish priest of Kalayaan, is a devotee of Our Lady of Manaoag. He had always wanted to go to Manaoag, but could not do so. Now, the Virgin came to his church. My friend Pol Capistrano went to Kalayaan to take photos of the enthronement.

At this point, I would like to ask readers to pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Ouano, mother of Edna Toral, who passed away two days before the event in Kalayaan. Edna still flies from Cebu to Manila and to Kalayaan. Such is her commitment to Our Lady.

Chapel in Canyon Woods

THE NEW chapel in Canyon Woods Residential Resort will surely be a beautiful place of worship. Slated to be blessed on Sept. 30 at 6 p.m. in Laurel, Batangas, the chapel will be dedicated to the Most Holy Name of the Infant Jesus. The Congregacion del Santissimo Nombre del Niño Jesus will donate a life-sized image for the altar.

Chapel committee is headed by Tony Adriano, who is known for his beautiful altar designs. Owner developer George S. Go, president and CEO; Mayette Ramos, resident manager; and Julie Najar, general manager, are giving support. Having a chapel is good news for residents and club members because Sunday Mass will be regularly held.

Padre Pio group in Lipa

THE PADRE Pio Prayer Group of Lipa has been officially affiliated to the International Center of the Prayer Groups of Padre Pio. The new prayer group is based at the Capuchin Retreat Center (CRC Lipa) in San Sebastian. Devotees of Blessed Padre Pio, Capuchin priest-stigmatist, can join the prayer group and its activities which are held every 23rd of the month at 5 p.m. at CRC Lipa.

There will be nine-day novena Masses in honor of Blessed Padre Pio, on Sept. 14-22, at 5:30 p.m. at the CRC Lipa San Damiano (main) chapel. The feast of Padre Pio will be on Sept. 23, 5:30 p.m. at the same chapel. This year, the main celebrant for the feast day Mass will be Bishop Salvador Q. Quizon. The public is invited.

CRC Lipa is less than an hour-and-a-half drive from Manila (85 kms) and is very accessible via the new Star tollway. Devotees and the interested public may contact Fr. Cesar Acuin or Josephine Cariaso at (043) 756-6989 or (043) 756-7611.

Marian pilgrimage

THE SECOND fund-raising Marian pilgrimage being organized by the Mission Society of the Philippines will take place on Oct. 6. To be visited are Marian Orchard in Balete, Batangas, Our Lady of Lipa Church, Padre Garcia Church, Immaculate Conception Basilica in Batangas City, Bauan Parish and Shrine of Our Lady of Caysasay and Lourdes Church in Tagaytay.

Call Pura at 752-36-88, (0917) 993-3549, or Aissa Bautista at 563-8436 (5 p.m. onward) or (0917) 841-0449, or Dolly Fernandez at 524-2979 (office hours).

Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel

SEPT. 17 is the 171st birth anniversary of Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel, founder of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Perpetual Adoration. A chapter is in Baybay, Leyte. Write to the nuns and ask for prayers to Mother Theresia. Inform them of answered prayers to push the cause of her beatification. Address letters to Sr. Judith Lorica at St. Martin de Porres Convent, Baybay, Leyte.

Spanish lessons

A READER is offering tutorial lessons in Spanish. Those interested can beep me at 141-020543.

Marian feast

C R Lady o a Salette's feast day is the same as my birthday pt. 19. Happy feast day, Our Lady.

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Treat your hair right

Healthy, shiny hair usually comes second only to vibrant skin in making one look younger. Yet, many unwittingly mistreat their hair with unhealthy styling methods and agents. Call it vanity and good grooming, a growing number of men and women have been subjecting their crowning glory to a lot of stress all for the sake of looking better or perhaps, younger.

Take those who are gifted with natural locks for instance. They can easily alter their hair's character, albeit temporarily, by a simple visit to a straightening salon. Those endowed with straight hair, meanwhile can easily have their mane permed to suit their fancy. But chemical treatments like perms and straighteners, including tints, dyes, and bleaches, can make your hair dry and brittle. If not averted, this could lead to premature hair loss.

If you are among those who have been abusing their hair without knowing it, take a cue: treat your hair right or you'll lose it prematurely. Take heed especially if you've observed that your hair loss is noticeably plentiful; if your fallen hair is shorter and much finer than normal; if you have dandruff and scaly scalp accompanied or preceeded by the thinning of hair; if your parents, grandparents or blood relations are bald; if your hair is fine, brittle or altered; and if you have entered the critical ages of 20, 30, 40 or 50 (for men) or over 35 (for women).

Premature hair loss can be very distressing. Contrary to popular notion, shampoos and conditioners are not enough to keep your hair from falling. A regular trip to the parlor may not be of much help either. The good news is: you can prolong the life span of your hair with Foltène — a revolutionary hair care treatment from Europe.

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Foltène is not a cure for baldness, however. It cannot revive dead hair follicles. What it does is normalize the oily and dry areas to encourage the growth of fuller, thicker and healthier hair. After a few applications, the external appearance of hair improves in qualities — shine, softness, manageability, volume and more importantly, healthier hair without premature hair loss.

So before your hair's condition enters the irreversible stage of baldness, treat the hair you still have with Foltène. Then you can stop losing hair over hair loss.

For more inquiries, please write to:
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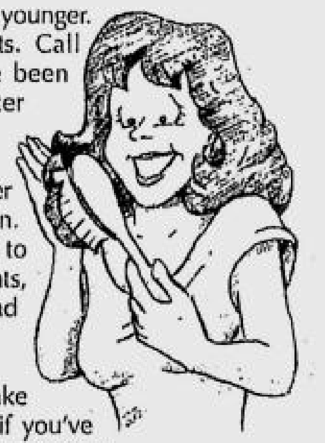

Poetess Añonuevo on travel and writing

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YOUNG feminist poet Rebecca Añonuevo will meditate on the link between writing and traveling in a lecture on Sept. 19, at 3-5 p.m., at the seminar-workshop room of University of Santo Tomas' Center for Creative Writing and Studies (UST-CCWS), G/F, St. Raymund's (AB-Commerce) Building, UST campus, España, Manila.

As part of the CCWS's Associate Lecture Series, Añonuevo will tackle "Ang Katuturan sa Ugnayang Paglalakbay at Pagsusulat." She will discuss how travels can form the core and content of a writer's literary assays.

Later, Añonuevo will sign copies of her newest collection, "Nakatanim na Granada ang Diyos," some poems of which are about her travels.

A junior associate of the CCWS, Añonuevo also teaches at Miriam College. She finished AB Literature at the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters and M.A. Literature at the UST Graduate School. She is now finishing her Ph.D. She has won several Palanca literary awards for her poetry, essays, and children's literature.

The lecture is open to the public. Call 731-3101, local 8281.

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